



## Settlers' proposal closes door on territorial compromise Plan aims to 'erase Green Line'

By GERSHOM GORENBERG  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A plan for new settlements in the West Bank, designed to close off any remaining chances for territorial compromise, has been submitted to Prime Minister Shamir by the leading organization of settlers.

The plan is signed by Omer Shalek, secretary of the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Region. It is dated November 14, but details of the proposal have remained under wraps until now. *The Jerusalem Post* obtained a copy of the plan this week.

The settlers' proposal also emphasizes "erasing

the Green Line" and driving wedges of Jewish settlement between Arab towns and villages.

The settlement council, known in Hebrew by its acronym Yesha ("salvation"), has close ties with Housing Minister David Levy and Matityahu Drobles, the Likud co-chief of the World Zionist Organization's Settlement Division. In the past, the WZO and Likud politicians have taken the settlers' proposals very seriously.

The settlers list 18 new settlements, including five large towns, which they say Shamir and the Likud should set up. They also ask that a large suburb be built at Abir Ya'acov between Jeru-

salem and Ramallah, where a few families now live in caravans.

"The goal is to add another 25,000-30,000 residents" to the Jewish population of the territories, Shalek writes.

He makes it clear that the proposal is designed to deal a final blow to the Alignment's Allon Plan on the future of the West Bank.

According to the Allon Plan, Israel should return the mountain ridge area, with its large Palestinian population, to Jordanian rule under a peace agreement. A corridor at Jericho would connect the mountain ridge to Jordan.

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## French aircraft strike back at Libyans in northern Chad

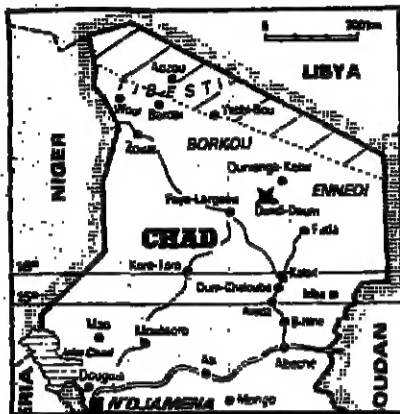
PARIS. — French jet fighters, replying to a bombing raid by Libya in southern Chad, yesterday bombed radar installations held by Libyans at Ouadi-Doum, the Defence Ministry announced.

A statement said the area was north of the "interdiction line" at the 16th parallel.

The radar installations were "neutralized" in yesterday afternoon's raid.

Within hours of the French attack, Libyan planes bombed the government post at Kouba Oulanga, 65 km. south of the 16th parallel, Chad's ambassador to France, Ahmad Allam-nd, announced in Paris. He said the Libyan raid by MiG fighters occurred at 5:15 p.m. following the mid-day strike by French forces on Ouadi-Doum.

France had said earlier it was studying an "appropriate response" to the Saturday bombing of two



towns deep in southern Chad. It has in the past replied to raids south of the 16th parallel with its own raids in the north.

The French retaliation came as Chad was tightening its hold on recently captured positions in the northern region controlled by the

Libyans for the past three years. Libya says it has only several hundred men in Chad, while France estimates Tripoli's strength there at around 8,000.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac and President Francois Mitterrand have both voiced political support for the Chad offensive in the north, but the French have ruled out any intervention by that army north of the 16th parallel as an idea "that does not exist."

"It is out of the question for us to accept that the 16th parallel should be a kind of division of Chad," he said, adding that the red line merely marked the area whose integrity was guaranteed by France.

In Washington, the White House said yesterday it was not surprised by the French air strike and voiced general support for French actions in the war-torn country.

## Zakheim: Lavi no better than rivals

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — U.S. Assistant Under-Secretary of Defence Dov Zakheim yesterday said he doubted the Lavi was any better than already operational American fighters and warned that continuation of the project would force Israel to sacrifice other important programs.

Addressing a press conference at the U.S. Embassy here, he said the administration would not force Israel to drop the Lavi. "We're not going to be the ones to say no," he stressed. But Zakheim promptly went on to state that Israel should not expect the U.S. to increase its military aid, which already stands at \$1.8 billion, so that Israel can carry out the project.

He said it was a considerable accomplishment to have got the plane "off the drawing boards and into the air" and have it fly for 27 minutes. But it was still an "unproven aircraft," he said. "It is not operational and has considerable development to undergo. Therefore one must take into account the difference between this particular airplane and the ones we are suggesting as alternatives."

Zakheim said: "If you compare the Lavi as it appears 'on paper' with U.S. aircraft, you find that in many respects the Lavi is better."

Most aircraft became "heavier" as their development proceeded, he said. Therefore, if the Lavi turned out as expected, it would be "nothing short of a miracle."

Israel, he said, could take a safer course and opt for one or several of the models that the U.S. is proposing. Some of the U.S. manufacturers of the planes would be willing to let Israel Aircraft Industries make the planes or significant parts of them to provide jobs for the people currently working on the Lavi, he reiterated.

The AV-8B Harrier, for example, could be partly produced here, he said. It should interest Israel "because we know Israel depends on a high sortie rate and the vertical take-off and landing capability of the Harrier makes it less dependent on particular airfields," he said. The Harriers could land "close to the forward edge of the battle area" to refuel and load more ammunition.

Israel could have 300 Harriers in the time it would take to build 300 Lavis.

Alternatively, he said, it could diversify its air force by buying 50

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## Shi'ites threaten to kill more Jews

BEIRUT. — A Shi'ite group has threatened to kill more kidnapped Lebanese Jews if Israel continues its retaliatory attacks in south Lebanon.

A statement in the name of the underground "Organization of the Oppressed in the World" published by Beirut's independent *Al-Nahar* newspaper yesterday said: "We reiterate our previous warnings to execute the rest of the criminal spies, the Mossad agents we hold as a simple retaliation should Israel maintain its terrorist operations."

The group announced on December 31 that it had executed three Lebanese Jews abducted during the past year and said it would kill more if Israel did not halt raids on south Lebanon.

It accused the Jewish hostages of giving Israel information on the Islamic Resistance, a coalition of anti-Israel fundamentalist groups, and offered to return their bodies if Israel withdrew from its security zone in the south.

Members of Lebanon's small Jewish community, now numbering less than 1,000, say at least seven of their fellow-Jews are missing and feared abducted.

The surviving hostages were identified by the Higher Council of Lebanon's Jewish community as Isaac Sassoun, 66, head of the Lebanese Jewish community, kidnapped March 1985; Salim Murad Jamous, 56, kidnapped August 1984, and Yahuda Benesti, 80, kidnapped in May 1985. (Reuters, AP)



Flames still rise from the burned-out cars in which Chamoun's bodyguards were riding when yesterday's car-bomb went off

## Chamoun survives massive car-bomb attack in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP). — Former President Camille Chamoun, architect of the first U.S. military intervention in the Middle East, was wounded in an assassination attempt yesterday when a remote control car bomb exploded as he drove through Christian East Beirut.

Police said three bodyguards and a pedestrian were killed and 35 other passengers by were wounded in the blast in the Manhattan industrial district at 9:30 a.m.

The white-haired Chamoun, 86, currently serving as Finance Minister, suffered a "minor" shrapnel wound in the face and both hands, police said. He was rushed to the

Hotel Dieu hospital where his wounds were bandaged.

The bespectacled elder statesman, Lebanon's most prestigious Christian politician who has survived four previous assassination attempts in the last 19 years, later left the hospital with Gemayel and was driven home. "God is protecting us," Chamoun said in an interview broadcast by the Voice of Lebanon radio. The Christian station taped the interview after he left the hospital. "This is the fourth or fifth time that criminals have tried to assassinate me," Chamoun said in a steady voice.

He made no accusations and no

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## Armenian cleric gets immunity

Armenian Archbishop Shahe Aghajanian and a West Bank contractor also implicated in the Rafi Levy case have been granted immunity in return for their promise to testify against Levy, according to Israel Television.

Levy, the Interior Ministry's Jerusalem District representative, has been charged with extortion, taking bribes, and other offenses. Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kolek and MK Yigal Cohen-Orgad (Ometz) are to be questioned about the case by police in the next few days.

## Pollard's wife reacts to 'sentencing memorandum' U.S. prosecutors have 'distorted the facts'

By WOLF BLITZER

Anne Henderson-Pollard, the wife of convicted spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, said yesterday she was "pretty disgusted" by the "sentencing memorandum" released by U.S. government prosecutors involved in her husband's case.

She accused the prosecutors of "totally distorting" the facts surrounding Pollard's espionage activities on behalf of Israel while serving as a civilian intelligence analyst for the U.S. Navy.

Henderson-Pollard strongly rejected the government's claim that her husband's willingness to spy for Israel was motivated by money. She insisted that he began providing Israeli officials with classified documents strictly out of his concern for Israel's national security.

Henderson-Pollard spoke in an overseas telephone conversation with this reporter in Jerusalem. It was her only public reaction to the latest development in the case.

On Tuesday, the prosecutors released a 55-page document outlining the government's evidence against the 32-year-old American Jew. Last June, he pleaded guilty to the espionage charges. He is scheduled to be sentenced on February 10. Henderson-Pollard pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of illegally possessing classified documents. She has been free on bail while he has been denied bail.

In the latest court documents, the prosecutors asked U.S. District Court Judge Aubrey Robinson to impose a "substantial sentence" against Pollard. As part of an earlier plea-bargaining arrangement with Pollard, the government agreed not



Pollard, photographed in prison by the Post's Washington correspondent, Wolf Blitzler.

to seek the maximum penalty for espionage — life in prison.

According to news agency reports from Washington, the document

charges that Pollard received up to \$2,500 a month for his service to Israel.

While the couple earned \$29,000 from their two jobs, they paid nearly \$20,000 in cash to their credit card account for daily lunches and dinners at Washington restaurants, airline tickets for two overseas trips, and expensive jewelry.

The document added that Pollard "expressed no remorse" over his actions and told two FBI agents "he would do it all again if given a chance."

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* on November 21, Pollard maintained that he was an ardent Zionist who felt compelled to pass information to Israel after discovering that the U.S. government was not providing it through official channels.

Henderson-Pollard, 26, yesterday said that her husband never felt that by giving Israel the information, he was damaging U.S. national security.

Sounding distraught, she expressed fear that Pollard could face a very long prison sentence unless the

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## Bank directors blasted in Knesset

By DVORAH GETZLER  
Post Knesset Reporter

Members of Bank Leumi's board of directors might well have had wide-ranging financial deals with the bank involving serious conflicts of interest between their loyalties to the bank and their own businesses, Labour MK Haim Ramon alleged yesterday in an all-out attack on recent doings at the bank.

Ramon, one of the leading figures pressing for probes and reforms of the banking system in the wake of the 1983 bank-shares crash and the subsequent Bejski report asked in a letter yesterday to the examiner of banks in the Bank of Israel, Galia Maor, for an investigation of recent media reports that point to conflicts of interest within the bank's senior echelons.

Ramon singled out lawyer Amnon Goldenberg who, he said, had acted for Ernest Japhet, the bank's former

senior public and legal figure" not connected with the bank.

Regarding further board resignations, Hurvitz told *The Jerusalem Post* that "any suggestion by Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno or the examiner of the banks [Galia Maor] that any member should resign would be acted on immediately."

"No one is stuck to his seat," Hurvitz said.

The directors met under siege conditions, as dozens of workers streamed into the bank's elegant fourth-floor executive suite before the board meeting got under way at 7 p.m. The employees attempted to force their way into the meeting.

At first, Leumi chairman Eli Hurvitz refused to admit any worker representatives, but eventually, through the mediation efforts of board members and Rehovot Mayor

Yehezkel Har-Melech, Roth and the other works committee chairman, Shuki Nagrun, were allowed in.

It was then that Roth chastised the board and made the works committee's demands.

In addition to the resignation of board members and the return of the severance money, Roth demanded that the salaries and other compensation paid to senior executives be subject to full disclosure and that the works committee be represented on the board of directors.

After Roth completed his statement at 9:15, the situation calmed noticeably, with the fourth-floor reception area taking on a carnival-like atmosphere. Many workers headed home, while others sat in front of the television set to watch Maccabi Tel Aviv lose to a French team by just one point.



Jewish Agency Chairman and Bank Leumi governor Arye Dulzin, on his way to the bank board meeting last night, passes demonstrators from the Citizens Rights Movement. The placard reads: "\$30,000, the great bank robbery." (Brutmann, Media)

## Renting out your flat?



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## The weather at major Swissair destinations

	7.1.87	MIN.	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	-4	21	34	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	-8	18	32	Cloudy
BIRMINGHAM	-10	14	28	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	-10	14	28	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	-10	14	28	Cloudy
GENEVA	-3	37	43	Cloudy
HELSINKI	-29	26	34	Cloudy
HONG KONG	19	41	70	Cloudy
JERUSALEM	15	29	37	Cloudy
LONDON	4	34	39	Cloudy
MADRID	4	34	39	Cloudy
MONTREAL	-3	27	32	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-10	14	28	Cloudy
OSLO	-20	14	28	Cloudy
PARIS	-3	37	43	Cloudy
RUHR/LEIPZIG	-10	14	28	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	18	44	52	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-10	14	28	Cloudy
TOKYO	3	37	43	Cloudy
TORONTO	-4	28	36	Cloudy
VIENNA	-8	18	32	Cloudy
ZURICH	-8	18	32	Cloudy

\*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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### THE WEATHER

Forecast: Fair weather and colder at night.

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	55	2-10	12
Golan	91	3-6	10
Nahariya	90	9	17
Safed	99	3-6	9
Haifa Port	80	4-13	16
Tiberias	81	7-14	16
Nazareth	—	6	14
Afula	77	4-15	17
Shomron	73	4-12	14
Tel Aviv	52	8-16	18
B-G Airport	54	5-15	18
Jericho	48	7-19	20
Gaza	50	7-16	18
Beerseba	43	5-15	17
Elit	24	6-19	20

### SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The Rotary club of Tel Aviv-Jaffa will not hold its weekly luncheon meeting today.

Dutch Minister of Finance H.O. Ruding and his party yesterday visited the Weizmann Institute of Science as the guests of its president, Prof. Aryeh Dvoretzky. He also met with Dr. Aron Gafni, deputy chairman of the board of directors of the General Bank and chairman of the Israeli Association of Friends of the Weizmann Institute; Mr. Moshe Porath, chairman of the executive committee of the institute, and Dr. Zvi Bohak.

Four Conservative MPs from Westminster, led by Peter Thomas, national president of the Conservative Friends of Israel, and accompanied by the director of the organization, former MP Michael Fidler, were hosted at lunch in the Knesset by Prof. David Liba'i, chairman of the Israeli-Britain Parliamentary Friendship Association.

## Press strike ends quickly

TEL AVIV. — A strike by daily newspaper press workers, which began at 1 p.m. yesterday, ended soon after as the workers' union and the Daily Newspaper Publishers' Association reached a legally binding agreement in the national labour court.

The two sides agreed: □ to negotiate group agreements on photo-type setting and modern technology; wage adjustments according to a new grade scale; and the addition of components to retirement pensions; □ to make every effort to conclude the negotiations within 30 days; □ To give the Newspaper Publishers' Association four days' advance notice if the union of press workers decides to call a strike at the end of the 30-day term.

## Morocco Square idea still on

ASHKELON. — Mayor Eli Dayan denied yesterday that the municipality had reversed its decision to name its central square in honour of the late Moroccan king Mohammed V, following violent opposition from right-wingers.

"The decision of the city council to name it Peace Square still stands," Dayan told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday.

Within days of its erection three months ago, the concrete plaque dedicating the square to the memory of the Moroccan king was vandalized with paint and pneumatic drills.

## HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

# Murphy continues Mideast swing in Jerusalem

By BENNY MORRIS  
Post Diplomatic Correspondent and Agencies

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, on a tour of the region, will meet Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres today in what is an effort to breathe new life into the peace process, according to Foreign Ministry sources.

Murphy yesterday met Jordan's King Hussein and Prime Minister Zeid al-Rifa'i in Amman but no details of the talks were released. On his arrival in Jordan Tuesday night, Murphy said that he expected Iran to figure in the talks. But he was quoted as saying, his main purpose was to discuss peace prospects and bi-lateral U.S.-Jordanian relations.

Prior to Murphy's arrival in Amman, Hussein was quoted as saying that the American arms shipments to Tehran were "an insult to all Arabs," and "I hope something will be done in the near future so the U.S. will not lose its credibility, because I'm afraid it is starting to deteriorate."

A senior source in Jerusalem said on Tuesday that Israel expects Murphy's talks in Amman and Cairo to focus on the Iranian imbroglio rather than on the peace process. The source said that Murphy would not succeed in renewing the peace process so long as all partners remained wedded to their present positions. The source said that what was required was a change of Israeli policy vis-a-vis the Palestinians and the PLO; only such a change, he explained, could prompt a real rather than a feigned movement towards

peace.

The State Department announced before Murphy's arrival in Amman that the assistant secretary of state was carrying no new peace proposals with him. In Amman, Murphy told reporters that the U.S. — like Jordan — found the idea of a preparatory committee to pave the way to an international peace conference "unattractive." "For us," Murphy said, "the preparatory committee is not a very attractive proposition."

Israel and Egypt last September, at the Peres-Mubarak summit in Alexandria, launched the idea of the preparatory committee. But Jordan has since signalled its non-acceptance of the concept. It prefers not to meet with Israel in direct talks — which is the corner-stone of the committee concept — prior to the convocation of the international conference.

Foreign Ministry sources last night said they were hopeful that "something would emerge from Murphy's tour of the region." Peres is known to believe that the fresh movement towards peace is possible, or even likely, after the Islamic Conference which is to meet at the end of the month in Kuwait.

The sources said they see Murphy's visit as designed to bolster the position and clout of the "moderate" Arab states both before and at the conference, which will be the first attended by the Egyptian head of state since the Camp David accords. If the "moderates" emerge stronger from the conference, the sources felt, the path would be smoothed to a renewal of the peace process with Israel.

## SETTLERS

(Continued from Page One)

"After a period in which talk was heard of a settlement freeze," Shnellers says, "it is necessary to establish settlements specifically on the mountain ridge, to testify to our faith in the justice of our approach... and to eliminate the mistaken approach of territorial compromise."

He adds: "We do not ignore the political necessity of taking the Alignment's stand into account, but that does not mean surrendering to it completely."

Shnellers proposes that a settlement called "Elisha" ("God will save") be built just north of Jericho. This is meant "to close off the option" of returning the Arab city to Jordanian rule after peace talks.

The one moderate point in the plan is a note that "we do not recommend Jewish settlement inside Arab cities." Some circles in the settlement movement have sought to move into Nablus and Jericho.

Since becoming prime minister, Shamir has sought to avoid a clash with the Alignment over settlement, and has resisted calls for establishing new Jewish towns and villages in the territories.

But he has come under increasing pressure from settlers and their supporters to begin a settlement drive. This week both Tehiya and the National Religious Party announced that they would lobby for new settlements.

The settlers' new plan includes

sites deliberately placed between Arab communities. Other sites are chosen to lie between large Arab cities and Jordan — again, to prevent territorial compromise. For example:

□ "Tirze," north of Nablus, would "close off" access from Jordan to Nablus" by controlling the road from the Arab town to the Adam Bridge.

□ "Kur," in western Samaria, would "close off the densely populated Arab area of Tulkarm and Kalkiya from the east."

□ "Tzoref," southwest of Bethlehem, would separate the Arab settlements of Tzurif, Bayt Umar and Bayt Ula.

□ "Ginat," west of Jenin, would "prevent Arab expansion."

The proposal also describes a number of sites near the pre-1967 border — in the Gaza Strip, the southern Hebron hills, the Latrun area, Western and Northern Samaria — as "erasing the Green Line."

In addition to the 18 proposed settlements, the plan lists eight sites where private developers have planned suburbs of Jerusalem or Tel Aviv. "Legally nothing prevents the private developers from establishing these settlements," Shnellers writes, "since they received building permits before the national unity government took office."

In fact, most of the developers have run into financial problems, or are involved in legal battles with Arabs over ownership of the land.

## LAVI

(Continued from Page One)

F-15Es, the new American long-range strike fighter, and 250 Harriers. The fly-away cost of the F-15 would be \$27.6m., and of the Harrier \$21.4m.

Zakheim said he also presented cabinet ministers with nine options involving F-16s. One was to build locally the F-16s that Israel Air Force already flies, including 43 to 55 per cent of its engine. Each plane should cost \$14.6m.

Israel could thus have as many as 36 new F-16s a year and stick to the \$550m. budget it has allocated for the building of far fewer Lavis.

Another option is to install nearly all the Lavi avionics in the F-16 fuselage. This can be done because the F-16 is bigger, he said. The

fly-away cost of such a plane would be \$16.9m.

The last option he raised at the press conference was to purchase the super-sonic multi-mission F-18 at a fly-away cost of \$27.1m. That is more expensive than the Lavi, but, Zakheim said, Israel could stay within the budget it had set for itself if the programme were stretched beyond the year 2000, so that fewer planes were bought each year.

He said he believed the annual cost of the Lavi project would amount to some \$1b., and not \$550m. Israeli officials have estimated.

Israel cannot hope to offset the project's costs by exporting the planes, he said. Various countries are now building their own aircraft, so the market is shrinking.

## Nablus school closed

Al-Aroudhe College in Nablus was ordered closed for a week yesterday by its principal because students were causing disturbances. The principal informed the security authorities of his decision.

## Maccabi Tel Aviv squander big lead

Post Sports Staff  
Maccabi Tel Aviv literally threw away a golden opportunity to advance their European Cup basketball prospects when they lost inexplicably by a single point 78-77 to the French champions Orthez in southern France last night.

The Israeli champions had led by as much as 10 points early in the game and maintained a safe lead for most of the contest. At the half they were 47-40 in front and with less than two minutes to go were still five ahead. Indeed, apart from the winning basket which came six seconds from the final buzzer, Orthez led just once through the game, at 32-30 midway through the first period.

The game seemed Maccabi's for the taking but for a lack of will at the finish, some loose play and some weird decisions — or lack of them — by coach Zvi Sherf.

The only bright features were the inspired point guard performance of Chem Lipkin and the brilliant all-round effort of Kevin Magee who was the game's top scorer with 29 points. Maccabi have now won only once in the three opening rounds of the final pool while Orthez, the competition's rank outsiders, are unbeaten.

# 'Who's a Jew' amendment postponed

By ASHER WALLFISH  
and DVORAH GETZLER

The three MKs sponsoring an amendment to the Law of Return, commonly dubbed the "Who's a Jew" law, decided to postpone its preliminary reading which they had planned for yesterday in the plenum.

The postponement reflected their realization of two facts: that both the Likud and the Alignment felt the time was inappropriate; and that their proposal could not be presented without the consent of both Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Vice Premier Shimon Peres, which they did not have.

In addition, the two key movers, Avraham Verdirer (Morasha) and Avner Shaki (NRP) realised that at least six supporters of their amendment were out of the country.

The amendment prescribes that conversions to Judaism must conform with Halacha (Jewish law).

The amendment took on urgency in the eyes of the Orthodox factions, following the case of Reform convert Shoshana Miller that led to the resignation of Shas leader Yitzhak Peretz as interior minister.

After Shas won attention with its stand against Reform converts being registered as Jewish on their identity cards, the other three Orthodox factions (Agudat Yisrael, NRP and Morasha), desperate to rival Shas's popularity, began to push the "Who's a Jew" law.

The postponement means that the amendment's sponsors will have to wait for a new date to be set by Speaker Shlomo Hillel. Had the reading been held and the measure been voted down, they would have had to wait six months, a prospect they were reluctant to face.

Two NRP men, Shaki and Haim Druckman, met with Shamir yesterday and asked him to set up a committee, comprising ministers, MKs and leading rabbis and chaired by cabinet secretary Eliakim Rubinstein, to study the need for a consensus on amending the Law of Return.

This committee, if set up, should be asked to report back in a few weeks, they urged.

Shamir said he approved the idea in principle, and would examine the feasibility of establishing such a committee.

Although the amendment did not come up in the Knesset yesterday, Agudat Yisrael MK Menahem Porush could not resist warning Deputy Minister Ronni Milo against carrying out the High Court ruling that Shoshana Miller must be registered as Jewish on her identity card.

It was Milo's first appearance as the man charged by the prime minister with special care for the Interior Ministry, which is now without a minister following Yitzhak Peretz's resignation Tuesday over the Miller issue.

But Milo is not the acting minister, it was pointed out to Porush by Deputy Speaker Dov

Ben-Meir. That didn't deter Porush. In that case, he said, he wanted to pass the same warning on to Shamir.

Haim Shapiro adds: Religious Affairs Minister Ze'evulun Hammer yesterday denied that his proposal for a joint religious court which would deal with conversions in the U.S. was intended to include non-Orthodox rabbis.

Hammer told *The Jerusalem Post* that the court, in his view, would include "halachically observant" rabbis who would be acceptable to the widest range of Jews in the U.S.

He stressed that he has no wish to interfere with American Jewry or intervene in its disputes, but his main concern was that the court would be guided by halachic rules.

Meanwhile, in a parallel move, Hammer is to bring before Shamir, Peres, and the other religious parties yet another proposal to solve the question of converts coming to Israel. According to this proposal, all converts would submit their credentials to an official body for validation upon arrival in Israel.

"Just as some doctors and advocates are required to take further training before their credentials are accepted," so those converts found wanting would also be asked to take further measures in order to have their conversions validated, Hammer said.

## Lynn: Corfu blocking seat belt legislation

By JUDY SIEGEL

Post Science and Health Reporter  
Liberal MK Uriel Lynn yesterday accused Transport Minister Haim Corfu of being "the only person in this country" who is preventing a law from being passed requiring the use of seat-belts in town.

Lynn, a member of a Knesset sub-committee on traffic safety, was reacting to an article in *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday in which Prof. Jakob Adler, an authority on emergency medical care, lamented the loss of life and limb caused by the lack of such a requirement.

Lynn charged that Corfu raised the subject with the coalition executive recently and managed to get Lynn's private member's bill defeated before it could pass its first reading. "The members are afraid of a minister, so they didn't push," said Lynn, who intends to raise the subject with the coalition executive again in two weeks.

Lynn maintained that all of Corfu's traffic safety and medical experts have recommended requiring drivers and passengers to strap themselves into their seats on city streets, but that "for some reason" Corfu had vetoed them.

"The coalition executive is not meant to decide such technical matters, but only political issues. Seat-belts shouldn't even have been brought to that body for consideration," Lynn said.

Lynn quoted Corfu as having said

that the law would "save only 13 lives a year on average, and that isn't worth the annoyance that belts would cause drivers." Lynn "estimates conservatively" that requiring drivers and passengers to wear seat-belts at all times would save "15 to 38 lives a year, and reduce serious injuries by 220 to 500 annually and all injured by 2,000 to 3,000." Since three-quarters of all accidents take place on urban roads, it is "obvious" that seat belts should be required there as well, he said.

Transport Ministry spokesman Yehiel Amitai commented that the minister is not in principle against such a law. But no studies have been conducted in Israel to determine whether seat-belts are effective in "short" trips in town, and what effect hot weather has on the wearers.

He also questioned whether the public would abide by such a law. "If children see that their parents violate a law by not fastening their belts, it could be anti-educational" he argued.

However, the ministry plans to require seat-belts on an experimental basis in two cities as soon as they can persuade two municipalities to enact bylaws on the matter. After a year the measure would be considered on a nationwide basis, he added. A promotional campaign advising drivers and passengers to use seat-belts at all times will also soon be launched.

## MK Biton assails reporter

By DVORAH GETZLER

Post Knesset Reporter  
Cursing and threatening Israel Radio's Knesset reporter Haim Zissowitz, MK Charlie Biton (Democratic Front for Peace and Equality) yesterday had to be restrained from physically attacking the journalist whom he accused of discriminating against his communist bloc.

Zissowitz had earlier quoted Biton's colleague, Meir Wilner, in a lunchtime radio report. But some other MKs who had spoken in the debate on former Bank Leumi chairman Ernest Japhet's retirement terms had recorded sections of their remarks broadcast. Quotation wasn't an equivalent for Biton.

Zissowitz later told colleagues that Wilner had spoken just before the broadcast went on the air and there had been no time to splice in a tape, so he had broadcast a summary. He also pointed out that he had not even had time to include the remarks of Deputy Finance Minister Adi Amoral and several other speakers.

But that, Zissowitz maintained, was not the point. Biton first went to the radio's Knesset studio, and not finding the reporter there, went to the journalists' wing. He was on the point of physically assaulting Zissowitz when he was held back by another reporter. Biton's action, Zissowitz charged, threatened the freedom to work of all Knesset journalists.

The journalists have written to Speaker Shlomo Hillel asking him to take appropriate action. Another letter has been sent to Wilner. Biton's party leader, asking him to dissociate the party from Biton's remarks and insist that Biton apologize. Biton's remarks included such insults as "dirty Ashkenazi" and threats to "grind you to a pulp."

Biton later rejected efforts at mediation, and also refused point-blank to apologize.

One explanation for the outburst was that Biton fears he may be left off the DFPE list for the next Knesset and is seeking to work himself into Wilner's good books by some dramatic action.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of our beloved mother, grandmother, mother-in-law and sister

**ESTHER ELSE FRANK**

widow of Joseph Frank, Adv.

The funeral has already taken place.

Shiva at 25 Rav Berlin, Entrance B, Jerusalem.

Daughter, Hanna Halevy Frank  
Son-in-law, Gidon Halevy  
Grandson, Ziv Halevy  
Sister, Nani Fischof, Zurich  
Brother, Manfred Barth, Teaneck, New Jersey

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

**MENASHE BRESHTTEL**

The funeral took place at Bayside, New York

on January 6, 1987.

The Family

We are very shocked and saddened by the death of our immediate past president

**GISELA WESTERBY**

and extend our deepest condolences to Niels, Iris and Alexander

The Board and Members of The International Women's Club of Israel

## Knifing suspect remanded

By HERB KEINON

For the Jerusalem Post

Ofer Ben-Shlomo, 24, suspected of stabbing two Arab night-watchmen at the Jerusalem Post building in Romema last Thursday night, was remanded in custody for eight days by the Jerusalem Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Police are still looking for two other men suspected of taking part in the attack.

Police say the crime apparently occurred spontaneously as the result of a fight, not an act of premeditated racial violence. Ben-Shlomo is Jewish, and witnesses say the other two assailants also appeared to be Jews.

One of the guards, stabbed in the chest and abdomen, was released from Shaare Zedek Hospital yesterday.

The guards were attacked after they refused to allow the men to enter the Post building.



Ofer Ben-Shlomo at the Jerusalem Magistrates' Court yesterday. (Dan Landau)

## Parents seek more leeway to locate missing PoWs

Post Knesset Correspondent

The parents of one of three IDF soldiers missing since the 1982 Lebanon war have asked the security authorities to grant them more freedom of action in respect of persons and institutions abroad whom they wish to contact to inquire about the fate of the men.

Yonn and Miriam Baumei, whose son was declared missing after the battle at Sultan Yaakoub, wrote to alignment MK Sheva Weiss noting that foreign individuals and institutions frequently tell them that while they decline to cooperate with official Israeli bodies, they would be ready to assist the families involved on humanitarian grounds.

Their son, Zecharia Baumei, who had served in a tank unit, has been missing for four-and-a-half years. "There is evidence that our son and his two comrades Zvi Feldman and Yehuda Katz are alive," Baumei wrote.

He noted that Chief of General Staff Rav Aluf Moshe Levy had himself publicly admitted that the heavy censorship imposed here with respect to the prisoners of war and the missing had not only failed to prove useful, but had in fact caused harm.

Baumei asked Weiss to intercede with Finance Minister Moshe Nisim, to exempt the families of the PoWs and the missing from taxes on foreign travel in connection with inquiries about the fate of their sons. Baumei said that while the families enjoy considerable financial aid for their meetings abroad, they often had to lay out the money in advance, which was proving to be a heavy burden.

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## Christian militiamen killed north of zone

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Two attempts to raid a Christian militia position near Jezzine, north of the security zone in South Lebanon, failed yesterday, leaving casualties on both sides.

The attacks, possibly by the Hizbullah extremist Shi'ite organization, were launched at about noon when dozens of fighters approached the Christian position in the area of Wadi Safi, south of Jezzine. The defenders, who are associated with the South Lebanese Army but do not

receive Israeli help because they are outside the security zone, repelled the first attack and then another.

Two militiamen were killed and three wounded in the raids. IDF sources announced yesterday that a Katyusha exploded in northern Galilee on Tuesday night, causing slight damage to a building but no injuries.

The rocket was apparently fired from north of the security zone, and was the first to fall inside Israel in nearly a month.

The World Jewish Congress  
The World Executive and The Israel Executive  
share the sorrow and grief  
of the Chief Secretary of the Israel office  
Dr. Avi Beker  
on the death of his father

**AHARON BEKER**

and convey their condolences to the entire family.  
May they be comforted in the upbuilding of Jerusalem.

President — Edgar Bronfman  
Chief Secretary — Israel Finger  
Chairman of the Israel Executive — Itzhak Korn



## China charges Vietnam border 'provocations'

## Losses heavy on both sides

PEKING (Reuters). — China said its frontier guards were still fighting Vietnamese troops yesterday morning after a series of border provocations by Hanoi's forces set off border clashes Monday.

The official New China News Agency reported that the Yunnan Province border that the Vietnamese had launched a dozen attacks on Chinese positions in the border area between early Monday and yesterday morning.

Quoted military sources as saying the frontier guards had repulsed repeated armed provocations by Vietnamese troops in the past few days.

In the first casualty figures given by China, the agency said the guards had "wiped out" 200 Vietnamese troops by about 7 a.m. on Monday, and a Vietnamese company was

"annihilated" yesterday morning. Earlier yesterday, Peking disputed Hanoi's claim that more than 500 Chinese soldiers were killed in the fighting on the rugged mountain frontier.

There have been frequent clashes between the two countries since China thrust briefly into six Vietnamese border provinces in 1979 to punish Hanoi for overrunning Kampuchea the previous year.

Kampuchean guerrilla leader Norodom Sihanouk said he had Peking's word that it would bleed Vietnam, while until it pulled 140,000 troops out of his homeland.

The latest surge of fighting could be a Chinese reminder to Hanoi that it stands by that promise, diplomats said.

Hanoi said China had fired more than a million rockets, mortar

bombs and artillery shells into its territory since the beginning of 1985.

Diplomats said the chances of another major Chinese push were remote, but it was a threat that forced Vietnam to keep the cream of its huge army on a battle footing along the 1,400km. border.

It is a war of attrition that puts a tremendous drain on a Vietnamese economy plagued by triple-digit inflation and shortages of many kinds, the diplomats said.

Some Vietnamese soldiers in the cold, rugged frontier area lack shoes, warm clothes and adequate rations, according to the official Vietnamese media.

However, Vietnam's Communist Party newspaper *Nhan Dan* pledged on Tuesday to stand by its commitment to the Phnom Penh government it set up eight years ago this week in Kampuchea.



Masked prisoners at Barlinnie Prison in Glasgow wave from the rooftop of the prison yesterday. Three prison officers captured on Tuesday were still being held by the 16 prisoners who said they were holding the hostages because of brutality at the prison. One of the officers later shouted to authorities from the roof not to storm the prison because "our lives would be in danger."

(Reuters telephoto)

## Strikes still spread, but Chirac firm

PARIS (Reuters). — About 2,000 striking train drivers demonstrated in Paris yesterday as France suffered further transport chaos and new power cuts. But right-wing Prime Minister Jacques Chirac showed no sign of easing a tough wage control policy.

With the rail strike now three weeks old, mainline train services were running at half their normal level.

Gas and electricity workers of the communist-led CGT union and Paris bus and underground Metro drivers extended stoppages begun Tuesday.

Power blackouts hit several cities and Paris public transport services were cut by half.

The Paris rapid underground rail system almost ground to a halt. One commuter said a journey which normally took an hour had taken 3½ hours. Taxis refused to take passengers into the city yesterday morning because cars were backed up 15km from the ring road around central Paris.

About 2,000 striking train drivers called out by a national coordination committee marched from the Gare du Nord station in northern Paris to the headquarters of the SNCF state railways to demand concessions ahead of a new round of negotiations scheduled to begin today.

The strikers have been pressing for new negotiations on wages and working conditions as well as on strike pay. The government has already retracted proposals for advancement on merit instead of seniority.

The SNCF denounced what it called acts of sabotage by strikers, saying that in some places signals had been damaged and electric installations destroyed.

## CHAMOUN

(Continued from Page One)

group has claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Chamoun has been an outspoken critic of Syria, the Palestine Liberation Organization and pro-Iranian Shi'ite Moslem militant factions.

Police said 75 kg. of explosives in a Peugeot 504 detonated as Chamoun's motorcade passed. The blast hurled his bullet-proof Mercedes Benz about 20 metres off the road. "But it miraculously landed on its wheels and he survived along with his driver," a police spokesman said.

The bodyguards were killed in an escorting white Mercedes, which took the brunt of the explosion that carved a crater two metres deep and 4 metres wide.

Five other autos in the motorcade were unscathed, but 26 other cars at the scene were destroyed by the blast.

Chamoun was heading for a meeting of the Lebanese Front, a coalition of rightist Christian groups involved in Lebanon's 11½ year civil war, when the car bomb detonated, police said.

Chamoun, founder of the right wing National Liberal Party, ruled as president from 1952 to 1958. He invited the first American military intervention in Lebanon in 1957 to quell a Moslem uprising shortly before the end of his term in office.

President Dwight Eisenhower sent a U.S. strike force of 5,000 marines and soldiers, the first American military contingent ever assigned to a peace-enforcing mission in the Middle East. They landed on beaches south of Beirut, restored calm and departed six months later in 1958.

The U.S. marines returned again as part of a multi-national peacekeeping force in Lebanon in 1982. They left in February, 1984 when the 17-month peacekeeping operation collapsed.

## IN BRIEF

## Thousands of Yugoslavs leave Communist Party

BELGRADE (Reuters). — Thousands of Yugoslavs have ditched their membership in the ruling Communist Party, a leading Belgrade newspaper said yesterday.

The semi-official daily *Politika* said that in Belgrade alone 10,000 people handed in their membership cards during the past three years, most of them workers and students.

Most people left because of disillusionment with the state of the society and the ruling Communist party's ineffectiveness in solving the country's serious economic problem, the newspaper said.

## Lisbon would return Macao in 1999

LISBON (AP). — Portuguese leaders are prepared to return the small isthmus of Macao to China in 1999, sources in Lisbon said yesterday.

Peking had expressed a desire to take control of the territory before the end of the century, and had issued a statement last week saying the return of Macao after 2000 was unacceptable. The 1999 date, finally agreed on, would return the colony of 400,000 people to China two years after the neighbouring British colony of Hong Kong reverts to Chinese control. Macao has been Portuguese for five centuries.

## Soviets to review Pasternak's works

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Writers Union has formed a commission to review the works of Boris Pasternak, Tass said Tuesday, and a Radio Moscow report made the first-ever public reference to the late author as winner of the Nobel Prize in literature.

A leading cultural official also has hinted that Pasternak's long-banned book *Doctor Zhivago*, which earned him the prize, may be released in the Soviet Union.

## India rejects sabotage claim in Bhopal gas leak

BHOPAL (Reuters). — The Indian government yesterday rejected Union Carbide Corporation's claim that sabotage caused the 1984 gas leak at its pesticides plant here which killed more than 2,900 people and injured 200,000.

In a reply filed in the Bhopal District Court the government also denied a Union Carbide allegation that it was partially to blame for the leak, the world's worst industrial disaster.

The government is suing the U.S. multi-national for \$3 billion in damages on behalf of 526,000 claimants.

## Finno-Soviet accord on early N-warning

HELSINKI (AFP). — The Soviet Union and Finland signed an agreement on an early nuclear warning system and concluded several other bilateral accords here yesterday, on the second day of Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov's visit to the capital.

The warning system accord, the first bilateral nuclear agreement concluded by the Soviet Union since the Chernobyl accident last April obliges Moscow to give prompt information of all nuclear accidents, including accidents with nuclear weapons and nuclear tests, if radiation leaks pose a threat to Finland.

FLOGGING. — A 35-year-old man was publicly flogged yesterday in Pakistan's biggest city Karachi for possession of alcohol, banned under the country's Islamic laws.

## Black students start return to South African schools

SOWETO. — Thousands of children returned to school yesterday in black townships throughout the country. Turnout appeared to be higher among the youngest students.

In Soweto, the massive township southwest of Johannesburg, large numbers of small children gathered in the grounds of junior schools for registration and morning prayers. Senior schools appeared to be quieter with many teenagers wandering in the streets nearby.

Meanwhile, soldiers and police threw a massive cordon around the black squatter camp near Cape Town before dawn yesterday, conducting house-to-house searches and spot checks on individuals, police said.

Witnesses quoted by the independent South African Press Association said soldiers on foot and police

in military vehicles sealed off the area except for one entrance. They withdrew at about 10 a.m.

The ANC yesterday urged South Africa's security forces to turn against their government and throw their support behind efforts to end the country's apartheid racial system.

"The police must refuse taking orders... and the army must turn its weapons against the regime so that apartheid can be removed and a non-racial South Africa established as soon as possible," said Reddy Mazimba, the ANC's chief representative in Zimbabwe. Almost half of South Africa's 45,000 policemen are non-white. The 75,000 man army consists chiefly of white conscripts but includes some black volunteers.

(AP, Reuters)



The two young South Africans in Soweto were among thousands of black pupils who began to return to schools yesterday after a long class boycott in protest against apartheid.

## Moscow 'ready to set dates' for troops pullout

## 'Quickest end' urged to Afghan war

MOSCOW (Reuters). — The Soviet Union yesterday announced it was prepared to set a timetable for the withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan in support of efforts to reach a political settlement after more than seven years of war.

An official communiqué said the Soviet leadership fully supported Kabul in seeking the quickest possible settlement of the Afghan conflict through united UN-sponsored peace talks conducted by special mediator Diego Cordovez.

In London, a senior Afghan diplomat yesterday said Soviet troops in Afghanistan estimated by the West at 110,000, will return to their garrisons as part of a ceasefire announced by Kabul for January 15.

The Moscow communiqué was issued by the official Tass news agency upon the conclusion of a two-day visit to Kabul by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and senior Kremlin foreign policy adviser Anatoly Dobrynin.

Their trip marked the highest-level Soviet visit to Afghanistan since December 1979, when Moscow intervened militarily to support the communist government in Kabul. It followed last week's order to the Afghan army by Afghan leader Najibullah to begin observing a ceasefire as of January 15 for an initial period of six months.

The Soviet communiqué called on all forces involved in the Afghan fighting to take the ceasefire offer seriously and use it to facilitate the search for a political settlement.

A senior Afghan diplomat in London said Soviet troops will return to their garrisons as part of the ceasefire.

In London, acting Afghan Charge d'Affaires Ahmad Sarwar told a London news conference the Soviet troops were charged with safeguarding Afghan borders. "During the ceasefire, these troops will also lay down their arms and return to their garrisons," he said.

Afghan leader Najibullah announced the ceasefire on January 1, to run for an initial period of six months from January 15 provided the anti-government guerrilla groups respected it.

Guerrilla spokesmen have rejected the proposal together with the appeal for national reconciliation and talks on coalition government.

Sarwar's remarks appeared to support speculation by Western diplomats that one of the main government tactics was to try to split the guerrillas into pro- and anti-ceasefire factions.

He said the Afghan authorities were already conducting talks with a total of 472 small armed groups, and that 13,000 guerrilla fighters had gone over to the government side. But he reiterated there could be no Soviet withdrawal until all foreign intervention in Afghanistan — a term used by Kabul to include arms supplies to the guerrillas — had ceased.

## Reagan free of cancer, eager to resume work

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — President Reagan, recovering well in hospital from Monday's prostate surgery, is free of cancer and "champing at the bit" to get back to work, the White House reported yesterday.

Army Colonel John Hutton, Reagan's personal physician, issued a statement last night saying a final Cat scan x-ray showed cancer had not recurred after a cancerous tumour was removed from Reagan's colon in July 1985.

Reagan told reporters from his hospital room window yesterday he felt "fine" and hoped to leave the hospital soon but when Weinberg was asked when the president would leave hospital, he replied: "we'll see."

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Reagan was "champing at the bit" to get back to work. Reagan's physician said the Cat scan showed Reagan, who turns 76 next month and is by far the oldest president in U.S. history, to be in excellent physical shape.

## Philippine communists say they rejected Soviet arms

MANILA (AP). — A Philippines newspaper reported yesterday that communist rebels said the Soviet Union offered to give them money and weapons, but they rejected the aid because of conditions attached by the Soviets.

The Manila Bulletin said rebel officials on the Bataan Peninsula disclosed the offer during a news conference on Tuesday. The newspaper said the rebel officials refused to explain why they rejected the offer.

The newspaper's report identified the rebels as Javier Domingo of the National Democratic Front and Ricardo Silvestre of the New People's Army.

Last year, the Soviet Union informed President Corason Aquino's

government that it was not involved in the insurgency.

The Communist Party of the Philippines, which controls the NPA, is Maoist in philosophy and has in the past largely been reported as independent of world communist powers.

In Manila, Front negotiator Carolina Malay said she doubted that the report was true, but was checking into it.

Malay said she was not in a position to know if the rebels had sought weapons from foreign powers, but she added "we need high-powered arms, all kinds of arms, if the cease-fire breaks down."

On Tuesday, negotiators representing the government and the front began a second stage of talks on ending the 18-year rebellion.

## Siberian cold wave hits — 60 degrees C

MOSCOW (AP). — The coldest early winter in 15 years has sent temperatures plummeting to —60°C in northeastern Siberia, news reports said yesterday. No injuries have been reported so far from the record-setting cold, which has also hit Moscow — with a low of —31° on Tuesday — and sent its winter-hardened residents scrambling for their warmest coats and fur hats.

## Plan to behead Pisa tower

PISA, Italy (AP). — A team of experts working on a plan to keep this city's famed medieval tower from falling is studying a controversial plan to "behead" the tower.

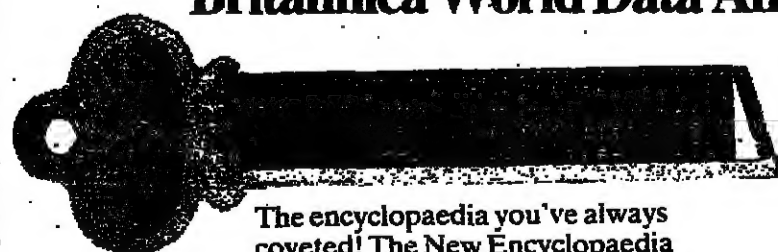
City officials and architects quoted in the newspaper *La Stampa* on Tuesday, say the increasing lean of the 55-metre tower eventually will shift the centre of gravity to "a critical point" where it could fall over completely.

Computers monitoring the tower's movement indicate it leaned 1.26 millimetres in 1986, above the average annual tilt of 1 mm.

Some of the experts suggest that if the heavy top belfry is removed, thus lightening the load on the tower, the commission can then begin work on consolidating the ground and foundation under it, preventing further tilting.

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0086-14-274



# Katsav initiates Herut peace talks

By SARAH HONIG  
Post Political Correspondent  
TEL AVIV. - Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katsav yesterday began discussions to work out a "peace agreement" in Herut. If the talks succeed, the party convention may be reconvened in March - a year after the last convention broke up in disarray.

Katsav, as president chairman of last year's aborted convention, met with Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon yesterday. "The meeting was a good one," said Katsav. "Sharon did not reject the latest suggestions." Katsav also met yesterday with Moshe Arens on the matter.

Prime Minister Shamir met in his office on Tuesday with representatives of David Levy's faction, headed by MK Micha Reiser.

According to sources close to Shamir, the sides agreed that if a comprehensive deal could not be worked out before the convention, agreement should at least be reached on the convention's agenda. The sides agreed that the agenda should contain at least four items: Shamir's election as party chairman; the declaration of all convention delegates

as members of the new party central committee; the ratification of the merger with the Liberals; and a vote on whether to create the post of deputy party chairman. If the convention does create such a post, David Levy would run for it and would probably be elected. Since it is primarily his faction that favours the creation of the post, it is assured that if its attempt to establish the post succeeds it will also succeed in getting Levy elected as Shamir's deputy.

Shamir is to meet his preferred heir, Arens, today, and at some future date will also discuss the question with Sharon.

Levy, Shamir's chief rival, is abroad. However, his representatives say they reached an agreement on Tuesday with Shamir and that it conformed with what Levy had been advocating all along.

They say that if the agreement is approved by the Likud faction chiefs, Shamir will be elected party chairman without opposition and Levy will be elected his deputy, ostensibly making Levy the number two man in the party.

Shamir has said that he will only make a deal if all factions and Herut leaders agreed to it.

## Shahal may liquidate Negev oil drilling firm

By BERNARD JOSEPHS  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday threatened to liquidate a government-owned company whose workers have stalled a major oil prospecting operation in the Negev.

The minister said he would recommend that Lapidot, the state-run oil drilling company, be dissolved because of the men's action.

Lapidot workers have been taking industrial action since Monday when they prevented the start of drilling at Agur, near Nitzanim. An international consortium, led by U.S. oil magnate Armand Hammer, is searching for reserves of crude oil at the site.

Hammer and the other investors have already spent some \$10 million on seismic and geological tests, and they are planning to spend another \$9m. on test drilling.

Shahal, who earlier this week expressed anger at the workers' action, said yesterday that he would tell Hammer he could hire another company to carry out the operation.

Speaking at a seminar on oil policy in Jerusalem, the minister said the

industrial action was being taken without Histadrut backing.

He continued: "There is no way that drilling can continue in an orderly fashion when workers wait for an opportunity to strike and damage the economy."

Shahal reminded his audience that Lapidot has been kept going by government subsidy for the past year-and-a-half just so that it can carry out the drilling at Agur.

If its men are not willing to do their task, then their equipment should be handed over to others who could be hired by Hammer to start drilling, he said.

The industrial action at Agur, where the men are demanding better pay and conditions, has deeply embarrassed the Energy Ministry.

"We cannot expect foreign investors to risk their money here if our own people cause them such problems," one ministry source said.

Shahal's threat is seen as a last ditch attempt to get the men back to work. But some observers believe that if no progress is made, the minister will take steps to shut down Lapidot.

## Benny Begin launches career in television

By GREER FAY CASHMAN  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Dr. Biyamin Ze'ev Begin, a politician by heritage and a geologist by profession, has added a new string to his bow. He is now also a film editor and host of a projected television series entitled *The Land of the Bible: Verses in Reality*. The need for such a series became obvious to Begin during his lecture tours of the U.S., where he detected enormous ignorance in all areas pertaining to Israel, among both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences. Even in the "Bible-belt," people had difficulty relating scriptural verses to a tangible reality. "They needed some kind of anchorage for the verse," Begin explained to *The Jerusalem Post*.

Early last year, Begin got together with Nathan Lifshitz of Magno Films, a Jerusalem-based company, and fired him with enthusiasm for the project.

The result is a half-hour documentary on the Arab village of el-Jib, once the biblical city of Gibeon. This is the pilot film for what Begin and Lifshitz hope will be a series of particular interest to clergymen and teachers of archeology.

Begin underlines the importance of limiting each episode to a specific biblical text. "You can't teach people about the whole country in a half-hour programme... You have to focus on a specific element." He is concerned with conveying reality. "There are people out there who think that Jerusalem is in heaven."



Shoppers compete for cut-price crockery in the china department of Harrods in London yesterday. Dawn queuers braved sub-zero temperatures for the opening of the annual sale.

(Reuters telephoto)

## Panel recommends closer monitoring of commanders

## IDF weighing major changes in basic training programme

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT  
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. - Basic training camps will be subject to closer supervision by army commanders, psychologists and other professionals if Chief of General Staff Rav Aluf Moshe Levy approves recommendations presented to him earlier this week by a committee representing all the army's corps.

The study followed serious mishandling of recruits in a course run by the Givati infantry brigade last August.

A report on the mishandling was published in *Ha'aretz* this week and several hours later an IDF source revealed the committee's recommendations, while insisting that there was no connection between the two.

According to the *Ha'aretz* report, commanders had fired over trainees' heads and had denied them medical treatment. Soldiers were ordered to do push-ups before they were allowed to receive parcels sent by their families and in one instance a sick soldier was forced to do 150 push-ups.

The committee, headed by the acting head of the IDF's training department, proposed essentially that combat units should not be responsible for basic training and that special units be established for this purpose.

The trainers should be given courses in education and psychology and be made to appreciate the fact that they are dealing with people facing the most difficult period in their military service. The staffers

themselves ought to be replaced periodically to retain their "freshness."

Officers responsible for soldiers' welfare should also maintain closer contact with the recruits and special care should be taken to monitor their illnesses, since some soldiers became genuinely sick as result of the harsh treatment. One recruit had suffered a nervous breakdown, but others had feigned illness to get time off.

The committee also suggested that trainees be given as much information as possible, even on the bus taking them to basic training camps. Every soldier should be fully informed of his options in the IDF before meeting the placement officer.

An attempt should also be made to draft soldiers just before the basic training course begins so that they need not waste time waiting for it. The unavoidable interim period should be filled with physical exercises, lectures on past battles and training in first aid and the use of communications equipment.

In another incident, a squad commander hit a soldier who lagged during a march; and when the recruit fell, threw stones at him.

The trainees were too intimidated to complain to any army authority. But some told their parents, and subsequently several commanders were removed from their positions.

One of the problems in training recruits is that the non-commissioned officers charged with the task are often only one year older than the trainees themselves.

The committee that examined the subject has proposed more thorough training and closer supervision of the non-commissioned officers.

The committee, headed by the acting head of the IDF's training department, proposed essentially that combat units should not be responsible for basic training and that special units be established for this purpose.

The trainers should be given courses in education and psychology and be made to appreciate the fact that they are dealing with people facing the most difficult period in their military service. The staffers

## Mishandled Brecht opera

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE CITY OF MARGARITON - Opera in three acts by Kurt Weill and Bertolt Brecht; produced by the New Israel Opera, Caserta Theatre and the Israel Chamber Orchestra. Hebrew Translations by Avraham Oz. (Caserta Theatre, Tel Aviv, January 6)

WITH ITS third production, *The Rise and Fall of the City of Margaron*, the New Israel Opera should have established itself firmly. But this production cast serious doubt on the company's artistic judgement and musical direction.

Director Marek Weiss-Grzesinski challenged the traditional concept of Brecht, turning the opera into some kind of grotesque elegy.

In doing so he lost the direct impact of Brecht's socio-political message. However, the decor was highly impressive, rich in invention and imagination, and all the performers acted professionally, particularly tenor Sami Bechar as Fatty, and baritone Abba Cohen in the third act.

Despite the shortcomings that turned the performance almost into

a farce, one cannot deny the excellent preparation of the production. And though conductor Lior Sham-badal did little more than indicate beat and entries, the orchestra and choir sounded meticulously well-prepared. BENJAMIN BAR-AM

## MUSIC REVIEWS

HAIFA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Subscription Concert No. 5. Stanley Sperber conducting with Michaela Kramer, soprano; Regine Lohr, mezzo-soprano; Elizabeth Graf, contralto; Gary Bennett, tenor; Werner Leeb, bass; with Giora Golan, piano; David Lohr, harp and the Tel Aviv Academy of Music choir. Haifa Auditorium, January 3. Gluck: "Iphigenia in Aulis"; overture; Handel: "Dixit Dominus"; Mozart: "Coronation Mass" in C, K. 317.

Except for the opening overture to Gluck's French opera *Iphigenia in Aulis*, the programme choices were all choral works.

First came Handel's demanding psalm, *Dixit Dominus*, written dur-

ing his Italian period, while he was studying in Rome. The performance proved to be no simple feat, especially for a large combined choir.

The young chorists of the Düsseldorf Grottesquely Gymnasium and the Israel Academy of Music sang correctly and with enthusiasm. Some parts were done well, but others could have shown more balance and blending of voices. Flexibility in expression and dynamic shading. Stanley Sperber did his best to maintain an adequate balance between the musical groups, the soloists, the chorus and the orchestral accompaniment.

After the interval, Sperber led all the participants in the presentation of Mozart's festive *Coronation Mass*. Again it proved to be a serious challenge. The choir's singing lacked volume, and the diction was not always clear. The soloists all acquitted themselves creditably, especially the soprano Michaela Kramer and the contralto Elizabeth Graf.

ESTHER REUTER

## CRICKET

## England coast to victory

PERTH (Reuters). - A fourth-wicket stand of 89 between Allan Lamb and skipper Mike Gatting ensured England of a comfortable victory in the final of the four nation one-day tournament here.

After Pakistan had been dismissed for a paltry 166 and following a couple of early alarms, England coasted to a five-wicket victory with nine of the 50 overs to spare.

Lamb and Gatting came together with England in some trouble at 47 for three and proceeded to take full advantage of Pakistan captain Imran Khan's curious use of his bowlers to hit 47 and 49 respectively. They steered England to within 30 runs of victory and Ian Botham did the rest.

Imran used his weaker bowlers at a vital stage in the middle of England's innings rather than rely on his strike bowlers against the cream of England's batting. By the time Imran and Waheed returned to the attack it was too late.

Earlier Javed Miandad had kept the Pakistan innings together as his team struggled on a pitch which gave the accurate England bowlers plenty

of help. Javed, named man of the match, hit an unbeaten 77 from 127 balls, being forced to abandon his usual dashing strokeplay as wickets tumbled around him. Saleem Jaffer gave him valuable assistance to post a last wicket-stand of 35 in nine overs.

Botham took the first of three consecutive wickets when he removed Qadeer for 23 and the figures of three for 29 included just eight runs from his last six overs. Gloucestershire took three for 28 as the lower order folded.

Unbeaten in the tournament, England pocketed prize money totalling \$38,500. Thirty people were detained last night on charges of disorderly conduct and assault following a scuffle between police and England supporters. A police spokesman said the crowd tried to hit 47 and 49 respectively. They steered England to within 30 runs of victory and Ian Botham did the rest.

In Cuttack, India captain Kapil Dev became only the second player after Ian Botham to reach 3,000 runs and 300 wickets in Test cricket as his side cruised to their second successive innings victory over Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka, reeling on the fourth morning at 51 for three, were bundled out by India's spinners for 142 to lose by an innings and 67 runs. India won the three-match series 2-1.

## Bullets' 'October look'

NEW YORK (AP). - Jay Vincent scored 23 points Tuesday in his first regular season appearance with Washington as the Bullets posted a 112-97 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers in the National Basketball Association.

Vincent, acquired by the Bullets in an off-season trade with the Dallas Mavericks, suffered a ruptured tendon in his right ring finger in the first quarter of Washington's opening exhibition game.

He received help in leading the Bullets to Tuesday night's win from rookie John Williams, who was shifted from forward to point guard.

"This is what we wanted to accomplish in October," coach Kevin

Loughery said of his new lineup. "But because of injuries and several other things, it did not come about."

Williams scored nine points, grabbed six rebounds and finished off five assists. Vincent, who played 35 minutes, was happy with his first official performance in Washington.

"I think I handled myself well," he said. "I think I may be able to take some of the scoring burden off the team."

Moses Malone led the Bullets with 27 points in 28 minutes, while Jeff Malone had 25 points and seven assists. Michael Cage had 15 points with 20 rebounds and a season-high 18 rebounds.

Elsewhere, it was the Knicks 118, Hawks 96; Bulls 99, Cavaliers 95; Bucks 124, Nets 112; Pacers 101, Spurs 99; Warriors 118, Rockets 106; Supersonics 138, Suns 108; and Kings 112, Nuggets 104.

## Strip show touted to bring crowds to Brazilian soccer

RIO DE JANEIRO (Reuters). - A Brazilian soccer league official said he wanted to bolster sagging stadium attendance by promoting strip-tease shows before matches and during the half-time breaks.

In a news conference in the northeastern city of Recife, Fred Oliveira, president of the Pernambuco State Soccer League, said that if he received approval from club officials, his plan would be implemented during this year's state league season.

The presence of beautiful women has always been a great argument to attract the masses, Oliveira said. "If that doesn't help, then I see no other solution to professional soccer in Pernambuco."

## NHL

DETROIT (AP). - Russ Courtnall scored two third-period goals Tuesday night to lift Toronto to a 3-1 NHL victory over Detroit as the Maple Leafs pulled into a tie with the Red Wings for first place in the Norris Division.

Rookie goaltender Ron Hextall stopped 26 shots to record his first shutout as the Flyers beat the New Jersey Devils 4-0 in Philadelphia.

In Utica, New York, Mike Bossy scored two goals and assisted on another as the New York Islanders swept a five-game unbeaten streak with a 5-3 victory over the Minnesota North Stars.

## SPORTS FORECAST

This week's coupon embraces both Toto Cup matches (in lieu of any National League fixtures) and the usual complement of six Second Division games.

	Single	Permu
Line	Line	Line
1. Brentford v. Hap. TA	1	12
2. Mac. Nea v. Hap. PT	1	12
3. Kfar Sava v. Mac. Hap	1	12
4. Bet. Netanya v. Shimon	1	12
5. Mac. PT v. Mac. Hap	1	12
6. Bet. TA v. Mac. Yavne	1	12
7. Hap. Netanya v. Bet. Net	1	12
8. Hap. Loh v. Mac. Hap	1	12
9. Hap. Aze v. Bet. Netanya	1	12
10. Hap. Hap v. Hap. Tiberias	1	12
11. Hap. Hap v. Mac. Shazarim	1	12
12. Hap. Hap v. Hap. Hadera	1	12
13. Hap. Hap v. Hap. Hadera	1	12
14. Bet. Ramat v. Hap. RG	1	12

ESTHER REUTER

## Egyptian squash champ

By JACK LEON

TEL AVIV. - Former Egyptian squash champion and world top-tenner Mohammed Awad and British international Angela Smith are defending their respective titles at next month's fifth annual Sagarm-Sabra Israel Open Squash Championships. The \$10,000 tournament will take place from February 4 to 9.

The 33-year-old Awad may be accompanied by his brother Gamal, 30, who was ranked No. 4 in the world a few years ago, tournament director Marty Einhorn said.

Awad, at present coaching in Italy, is only the third Egyptian sportsman to have competed in Israel to date. He was preceded by tennis player Aly Eldawood in 1981, and fellow squash star Mousa Hala, who won the Open here two years ago.

AMERICAN CUP. - Australia IV defeated Kookaburra III by 24 wickets yesterday in the final race of the America's Cup defenders' series.

The race was a preview of the defenders' final in which the two boats will sail off in a best-of-nine series that begins January 14. Australia IV finished the series with 83 points, six more than Kookaburra III. Kookaburra II ended the series with 76 points.

## CINEMA

JERUSALEM  
Belt Agon: Behind the Walls 8; Monty Python: Time Bandits 7;45; Dva 8;45; Bananas, midnight; Cinemascope: Lofia 7; Gate of Hell (Japan) 9:30; After Hours 9:45; Zip Zap Story, midnight; Eden: Murphy's Law 4:30, 7; 9; Eden: The Mission 4:30, 7; 9; Habs: Kokoschka, 1896-1980. Selection of Prints and Albums (Trends in Geometric Abstract Art) by Edward Munch, prints: Death, Love and Anxiety (From the Museum Collection) Selection from Museum Collection of European, American, Israeli Art. Visiting Hours: Sun-Thur. 10-2, 5-9; Sat. 11-2, 7-10; Fri. closed. Helena Rubinstein Pavilion: Exhibition: David Hockney Photocollages. Visiting Hours: Sun-Thur. 10-11; 5-7. Sat. 11-2. Fri. closed.

## Conducted Tours

AMIT WOMEN (formerly American Miz-nach Women). Free Morning Tours - Tel Aviv. Tel. 220157, 233154.  
WIZZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv, 222239; Jerusalem, 220060; Haifa, 388817. QRT. To visit our technological high schools call Jerusalem 533141; Tel Aviv 356171, 233231, 240529; Netanya 33744.  
PIONEER WOMEN - NAA AMAT. Morning tours. Tel Aviv, 210781. Jerusalem 246878.  
NADASSAN VISITORS DEPT. Astor Hotel, Room 01. 106 Hayarkon St., Tel. 03-223141.

## HAIFA Museums

HAIFA MUSEUM, 26 Shabbat Levy St. Tel. 04-522225. Exhibitions: Modern Art - Ephraim Monument; Natall Nachman, Reuven Atiya - colour photographs. Ancient Art - Jewish coins of the Second Temple Period. Egyptian bottles, terracotta figurines. Music & Ethnology: world paper cuts. Open: Sun-Thur. & Sat. 10-1; Tue. Thur. & Sat. also 6-9. Ticket also admits to National Maritime, Prehistoric and Japanese Museums.

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-640840.

A visit to the museum is educational. But kids enjoy it anyway.

Jungle, midnight; Tennes: All My Loving 1; 7-10; 8-40; Stripes, midnight; Tchelet: The Gods Must Be Crazy 5; 7-10; 9:30; Tel Aviv: Murphy's Law 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Tel Aviv Museum: Shosh (II) at 1; Shosh (I) at 6:30; Zefoni: The Mission 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30.

## HAIFA Amphitheatre

Amphitheatre: Ninja Thunderbolt 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Amos: Raw Deal 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Atoms: 1; Back to School 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Atoms: 2; Avant-Pop 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Atoms: 3; The Gods Must Be Crazy 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Keren Or Hama: Gitter & Fred 4, 8:30, 9; Gitter: The Mission 4, 8:30, 9; Only The Burmese Harp 8:45, 9; Peter: Ruthless People 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Raw-Gat 1; El Amor Bruto 9:15; All My Loving 4:30, 7; Raw-Gat 2; A Man and a Woman; 20 Years Later 7; 9; 9:15; Blackboard's Ghost 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Raw-Gat 3; Legal Eagles 6:45, 9; Rumpelstiltskin 4:30, 7; 9; 9:30; Shavit: Hannah and Her Sisters 7, 9.

## RAMAT GAN

Amos: Raw Deal 5, 7:15, 9:40; Lily: Hannah and Her Sisters 7:15, 9:30; Odeon: The Mission 7, 9:40; Odeon: Ruthless People 5, 7:35, 9:45; Raw-Gat 2: A Man and a Woman; 20 Years Later 7:10, 9:40; Blackboard's Ghost 7:10, 9:40; Blue Velvet 8, 7:15, 9:40; Car Bears 4:30; Michael: Legal Eagles 7:15, 9:40; Rumpelstiltskin 4:30, 7:15, 9:40; New Theatre: Ricochet 7:15, 9:15.

## HERZLIYA

Ran Accadia: Ran 8:15, 9:30; Daniel Harel: A Room With a View 7, 9:30; David: A Man and a Woman 7:15, 9:30; Car Bears 4:30; Michael: Legal Eagles 7:15, 9:30; Rumpelstiltskin 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; New Theatre: Ricochet 7:15, 9:15.

## HOLON

Amos: Raw Deal 5, 7:15, 9:40; Lily: Hannah and Her Sisters 7:15, 9:30; Odeon: The Mission 7, 9:40; Odeon: Ruthless People 5, 7:35, 9:45; Raw-Gat 2: A Man and a Woman; 20 Years Later 7:10, 9:40; Blackboard's Ghost 7:10, 9:40; Blue Velvet 8, 7:15, 9:40; Car Bears 4:30; Michael: Legal Eagles 7:15, 9:40; Rumpelstiltskin 4:30, 7:15, 9:40; Shavit: Hannah and Her Sisters 7, 9.

## SATYAM

Amos: Raw Deal 5, 7:15, 9:40; Lily: Hannah and Her Sisters 7:15, 9:30; Odeon: The Mission 7, 9:40; Odeon: Ruthless People 5, 7:35, 9:45; Raw-Gat 2: A Man and a Woman; 20 Years Later 7:10, 9:40; Blackboard's Ghost 7:10, 9:40; Blue Velvet 8, 7:15, 9:40; Car Bears 4:30; Michael: Legal Eagles 7:15, 9:40; Rumpelstiltskin 4:30, 7:15, 9:40; Shavit: Hannah and Her Sisters 7, 9.

## RAMAT HAHARON

Kochav: Raiders of the Lost Ark 4; Teen Wolf 7; Out of Africa 9:15 p.m.

## PETAH TIKVA

G.G. Hechel 1; Legal Eagles 8:30; G.G. Hechel 2; Avant-Pop 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; G.G. Hechel 3; Back to School 4:30, 7:15, 9:30.

## TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

### TELEVISION

EDUCATIONAL: 8:00 Telecast 8:00 Keep Fit 8:15 School Broadcasts 14:00 Telecast 14:00 Keep Fit 14:15 Family Programs (repeat) 15:00 Tau Tau 15:25 Rehov Sunsum 16:00 This is... live magazine 17:00 A New Evening - live magazine

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: 17:30 Macron 1 - science fiction 17:55 Jane Eyre. Part 9 of an 11-part adaptation of Charlotte Brontë's novel 18:25 A Look at biblical Avram

ARABIC-LANGUAGE programmes: 18:30 News roundup 18:32 TV Magazine 19:00 Meeting - current affairs 19:30 News

HEBREW PROGRAMMES resume at 20:00 with a news roundup 20:02 Mabat Sport 20:48 Programme Trailer 21:00 Mabat Newsweek 21:30 Yankee Samurai - documentary about the fate of Americans of Japanese origin during the Second World War 22:20 First Among Equals. Part 1 of a 10-part British drama series about English parliamentary life, starring Jeremy Child, James Faulkner, David Robb and Tom Wilkinson 22:10 Gallery - arts magazine 22:50 Language Corner. Introduced by Avshalom Kor and News

JORDAN TV (unofficial): 17:30 Carbons 18:00 French Hour 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Check It Out 21:10 Falcon Crest 22:00 News in English 22:30 Feature Film

MIDDLE EAST TV (From T.A. north): 13:30 Another Life 14:00 700 Club 14:30 Shape-Up 15:00 Afternoon Movie: Suspicion 17:00 Flying House 17:30 Mupets 18:00 The Jeffersons 18:30 Doc 19:00 News 20:00 Heartbeat & McCormick 21:00 Facts of Life 21:30 Feature 22:00 Moonlighting 22:30 700 Club

## REPORT SUSPICIOUS OBJECTS



The Shoshana Miller case

# Unity of the Jewish people is paramount

LAWREPORT  
Asher Felix Landau

IN THE Supreme Court sitting as the High Court of Justice before the President, Justice Meir Shamgar, the Deputy-President, Justice Menahem Elon, in the matter between Shoshana Miller, petitioner, versus the Minister of Interior and another, respondents (H.C. 230/85).

THE PETITIONER converted to Judaism in the United States within the framework of the Jewish Reform Movement. She had taken a conversion course under the supervision of a rabbi in which she studied Jewish religious commandments, the philosophy and history of the Jewish People, and the Hebrew language, and she also underwent immersion in a ritual bath. At the conclusion of the whole process, she received a conversion certificate.

She came to Israel in October, 1985, and was given a certificate under the Law of Return of 1950 as an olah, i.e. a Jew who had come to settle in Israel. She then went to the Ministry of Interior to receive her identity card, introduced herself as Jewish, and presented her conversion certificate.

The official refused to register her as Jewish, and referred her to the Rabbinical Court to receive con-

firmation of her conversion. The petitioner averred that the official had also suggested that she be registered as a Christian, or that the registration of her religion remain blank. She was later informed that the respondents were prepared to register her, as to le'om (national group) and religion, as "Jewish (Converted)".

She was not prepared to accept this, and applied to the High Court of Justice for an order on the respondents to register her as Jewish without the addition relating to her conversion.

THE FIRST JUDGMENT of the court was given by Justice Meir Shamgar. The respondents, he said, had relied on precedents of the Supreme Court under which the question whether or not a person had converted to another religion was to be decided by the tests laid down by that religion. Since the registration officer could not decide whether the petitioner's conversion was valid or not, it was only right, the respondents submitted, that that question

should be decided by the most competent organ in the state, namely, the Rabbinical Court.

The respondents also argued that the particulars in the register and in an identity card were not only a matter of statistics, for they afforded information to every other authority in the state. The registering authority, therefore, was fully entitled, and even obliged, to warn, in particular, the Registrar of Marriages and Divorces, that the petitioner was a convert, in order to enable that official to make the necessary inquiries.

The president then analysed in detail the relevant provisions of the Population Registry Law of 1965. Section 2 prescribed which personal details of a resident were to be registered, including national group and religion. These details had been laid down by the legislature, and were not left to the discretion of the registering officer. Under section 25 of the law, an identity certificate was to contain the particulars of registration laid down by the minister of interior, with the approval of the Law, Constitution, and Justice Committee of the Knesset under section 27, nothing could be entered in the certificate otherwise than in accordance with a law, or with regulations of the minister similarly approved. Justice Shamgar then cited sections



Shoshana Miller after the High Court decision. (Isaac Harari)

of the law dealing with altering particulars in the register, and pointed out that these sections referred to alterations relating to events after the original registration, and not before.

THE PRESIDENT went on to refer to decisions of the Supreme Court whereby a person to be registered as a Jew was one so recognized under section 4B of the Law of Return, namely, the child of a Jewish mother, or a person who was "a converted Jew and had no other religion."

He also cited sections 3A and 19B of the Registration Law, and held that a person claiming to be a Jew was to be registered as such unless some of the counter-indications specified in section 3A were found to

exist. After examining other sections of the Law, Justice Shamgar held that, since the legislature had laid down clearly what particulars were to be registered, neither the minister of interior nor any registration officer had the power to make additions to the particulars specified in the Population Registry Law. Such additions could only be authorised by regulations made under the Law with the approval of the Knesset Law Committee.

In conclusion, the President cited an extract from a judgment of former Chief Justice Agranat, who said, in another context: "The great event of the establishment of the State of Israel, namely, the renewal of the statehood of the Jewish People in the land of its birth, did not occur in order to drive a wedge into the people who dwell in Zion, and divide it into two peoples, Jews and Israelis. Such a division - should it, Heaven forbid, ever occur - would contradict the national aspirations for which the state was established, and would mean the frustration of those aspirations, and the undermining of the unity of the Jewish People as a whole."

For the above reasons, the President proposed that the court order the respondents to register the petitioner simply as a Jew.

JUSTICE Menahem Elon agreed that the registering authority had no power to add the word "converted" to the word "Jew." He held that this addition also had no place under the Halacha (Jewish law).

He cited the following passage from a 1984 precedent of the Supreme Court dealing with an election petition:

"The Jewish People does not 'seek souls' to attract members of other peoples to its ranks

(Micah.IV.5; Maimonides, Melachim.8.10); but once the son of another people has joined the Jewish People, he becomes a member of that people, both as to his rights and obligations."

"Ye shall have one statute, both for the stranger, and for him that is born in the land" (Numbers.IX.14); "Neither let the alien, that hath joined himself to the Lord, speak, saying 'The Lord will surely separate me from His people...' For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah. LV.3-7). And not only from now onwards, but also as regards the past: for this was the reply of Maimonides to Ovadia the convert: "Anyone who converts does so for ever, and he who joins his name to that of the Holy One, Blessed be He, is, as is written in the Torah, a pupil of Abraham our father, may peace be upon him, and they are all children of his household...and there is no distinction between them and us in any respect whatever. And do not treat your ancestry lightly; if we are related to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, you are related to Him who created the world (Maimonides, Responsa. Edition Freimann, 369.)"

THE TALMUD points out, Justice Elon resumed, that the Torah warns against afflicting the stranger in 36 passages - referring to any form of causing him pain, whether in speech, action, or judicial records. There were two principal factors at play. The first was the historical memory of the Jewish People.

"Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Exodus XXIII.9).

In his above reply to Ovadia, Maimonides wrote: "...You must realize that the majority of our fathers who went out of Egypt were idolaters, intermingled with the gentiles, and learned their ways, until the Holy One, blessed be He, sent our teacher Moses - may peace be upon him - the father of all prophets, and separated us from other peoples, and brought us under the wings of the Divine Presence, ours and that of all strangers, and gave us all one law."

The other factor, Justice Elon continued, was our particular sympathy towards one who has left the social and spiritual surroundings in which he was born and grew up, was educated, and lived his life, and entered a different social and spiritual environment, assuming different obligations and a different way of life. As it is written: "Also thou shalt not oppress a stranger: for ye know the heart of a stranger, seeing ye were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Exodus XXIII.9).

Justice Elon then cited further authorities in the Halacha, and concluded by saying that there was no doubt that by adding the word "convert" in brackets to the nationality and religion of the petitioner, we should be differentiating between her and everyone else. We have been warned, he said, not to act in this way.

THE DEPUTY-president agreed with her colleagues.

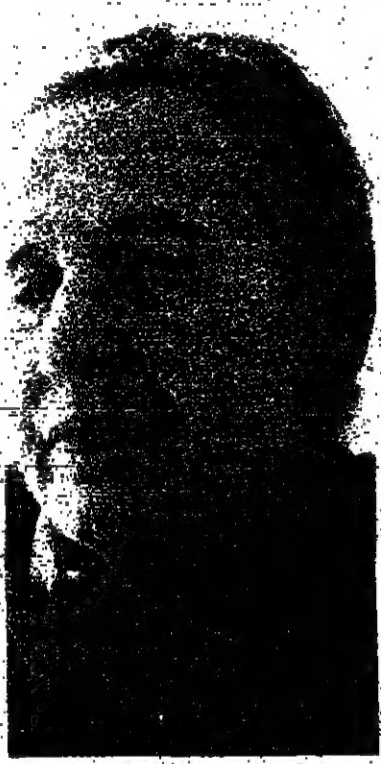
For the above reasons, the petition was allowed, and an order was made accordingly.

Advocate Arnold Spaer and Advocate Anat Green appeared for the petitioner, and Advocate Renato Yarak for the respondents.

Judgment given on December 2, 1986.

## Pioneer writer

THERE AND THEN / Sraya Shapiro



Shulamit Laskov (Sraya Shapiro)

THE "DOVES" of today might trace their origins to Ahad Ha'am - if they cared for their predecessors. "I don't discuss the validity of his analysis, I just state the facts" says Mrs. Shulamit Laskov. She is preparing an annotated edition of Ahad Ha'am's letters, "which contain the whole history of Zionism at the turn of the century."

Asher Ginsberg, who wrote under the name Ahad Ha'am (an expression describing a simple citizen, "one of the people"), seemed to doubt the prospect of the Jews re-establishing a political entity in Palestine. But even if they did, their chances of survival would be slim without a spiritual upheaval, without a profound understanding of Jewish tradition.

Thus was born Ahad Ha'am's concept of a "spiritual centre" in Palestine. And he vigorously contested the endeavours of philanthropic associations such as the German-based Hiltverin or the Paris-directed Jewish Colonization Association, to retain German or French as their languages.

FERRETING among old documents has been a passion with Shulamit Laskov since, as Shulamit Chen, she was a pupil at the Jerusalem Gymnasium ("I attended it when it was in its temporary premises in the Bukharan quarter"), and she pursued it at the Hebrew University ("I studied with the greatest teachers there - Beer, Cherikover, Koebner").

But then, after two years at Mount Scopus, she dropped it all and joined a Hashomer Hatzair pioneering group in Petah Tikva. Youth movements maintained that hachshama, realization, was more important for the Jewish people, and for the individual's peace of mind, than esoteric immersion in books.

So history was abandoned, while violin practice was reserved for leisure hours - which were not many. Work in the winter was mainly in the citrus groves fruit picking and packing; sometimes in the kitchen. "Once they sent me to do a house-cleaning job with a better-off family in Petah Tikva. The people happened to know my parents, and gave me a real meal."

EVENTUALLY, the group was given a plot of land near the Lebanese border to form a settlement. Eilon was to be set up on hilly ground just beyond the "Tegart fence" the British had erected to guard against infiltrators from the north.

"We were supposed to be an advance party of Solé Boneh. A British police officer once came to inspect -

he was so handsome one could only gaze at him! - and inquired what girls were doing there. So everytime a foreign car was spotted making the difficult ascent to us, the girls were hustled into a wadi. It was all right in good weather, but when it rained..."

Shulamit was in charge of the signal lantern at night ("During the day most of our job was removing stones from a plantation area"). Isolated in dangerous country, Eilon could communicate with Nahariya, even Haifa, only by sending morse signals across the plain.

Shulamit left the kibbutz after four years, not because of a change in her ideology, but "out of sheer boredom." Physical work did not scare her. ("I was strong enough to do any job"), but once kibbutz life settled into a routine, she felt she had had enough.

"Not that the secretarial jobs I got in town offered anything more exciting," she admits, but the new life left her free to write.

HER FIRST published endeavour was a novel, with an introspective title taken from Bialik, *Ish leheishbon olamo* ("which could be rendered, approximately, 'To each his own reckoning'"). But history being more dramatic than fiction, she turned to facts.

She told the story of Yosef Trumpeldor, who was, like her future husband Haim Laskov, one of the most gallant soldiers the Jewish people had known. She prepared an edition of Asher Druyanov's compilation of documents relating to Hibat Zion (the Russian-based movement which preceded the political Zionism of Herzl). But her most famous work until now is her story of the Bilumim.

Legend has it that the Bilumim were university students who organized in the wake of the 1881 pogroms to press on the Jews the urgency of leaving en masse for the Promised Land. ("Bilu" is an acronym of Beit Yisrael, lechi, venecha, Come, House of Israel, let us go.)

Certain it is that at that period between 3,000 and 6,000 Jews made their way to Palestine, as compared with the 17,000 who crossed the ocean to America. But the particular group to which the name always refers made history because they propounded a new theory of settlement.

"Few of them were actually university graduates, or even students," says Mrs. Laskov, "but they had very definite and clear ideas of what the return of the nation to its homeland should be. They even spoke of a Jewish state."

The mass of immigrants before that were people who desired little more than to reside in the Holy Land, making a living as best they could and accepting as their due the subsidies of Hovevei Zion or Baron Rothschild. The Bilumim were the first ideological movement in Zionism. Their tragedy, or drama, was that they encountered fierce antagonism from the settlers who had preceded them.

Eventually, the Bilumim themselves drifted into the sort of life they so vehemently condemned at the outset. The ideological wave was to be resumed a generation later, when socialist-minded youths mingled with the stream of immigrants. Their ideals were enunciated by Yosef Vitkin, a personality to whom Mrs. Laskov had devoted one of her studies.

"What strikes one in reading the plethora of documents of all periods in Zionist history is the prevalence of despair," she says. "Reading what Zionists wrote to each other, one would imagine they were on the brink of catastrophe."

Well, quite often it was so. That so much was achieved, nevertheless speaks volumes for the vigour of the Zionist cause.

## HOT DISCOUNTS

### OSEM MONTH

Special discounts on all Osem products

- Examples:
- Chicken soup, 400 g. only **4.66**
  - Hamim Veta'im mix only **1.09**
  - Mayqchef, 500 g. only **2.11**
  - Thousand Islands dressing 290 g. only **1.44**
  - Soup almonds 400 g. only **2.90**

Washing powder, 3.90

You don't have to travel to Moscow!

Pelmeni - meat kreplah, 500 g. only **4.59**

Pelmeni - Potato kreplah, 500 g. only **3.65**

Star-Kist Tuna, 190 g. only **2.15**

Sliced mushrooms Rumanian, 410 g. only **1.59**



If you had a sweet tooth

- Chocolate spread, Zebra, 400g. only **5.90**
- Chocolate covered "Manboniot" Feldman 1kg. only **3.80**
- Chocolate coated wafers, Diskolada 175 g. only **2.94**

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Chocolate chips Oppenheimer's 300 g. only **3.79**

Kellogg's Cornflakes 500 g. only **4.29** 250 g. only **2.70**

Just arrived from England!

Churchill Mugs, ceramic only **2.70**

Electric kettle, Major with cut-out only **69.-**

Strauss Ice Cream

10% off A selection of ice creams, including the new Tramp Ice Cream (10 in a box)

## At Super-Sol

For easy meal preparation!

Pizza "Makpitz" Maadanot 5 x 100 g. only **4.41**

Milchicken breast rings, 500g. only **4.70**

Tempo Cancal, 2 litres only **1.40**

Two packages of Beskevitz turkish coffee (brown package) For the price of one only **1.60**

Pistachios, 500 g. only **7.22**

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WINDOLENE PLUS for cleaning windows only **2.69**

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- Frozen ducks, 1kg. only **6.99**
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- Nelanya 1 kg. only **13.99**
- Knackwurst Gulliver Sausage, Zoglawek, 500g. only **5.10**
- Cognac Salami Sausage, Maadanol Dan each only **5.10**
- Zahavon Fish, 1kg. only **2.99**

### Fruit and Vegetables

- Prices valid till Jan. 9
- Yellow apples, size 6 1/2, 1 kg. only **1.99**
- Bananas, 1kg. only **1.85**

### Give me Wissotzky Tea!

- Tea bags 1 g. x 100 only **2.99**
- Tea bags 1 g. x 25 only **0.63**
- Tea 74 125 g. only **1.17**

### Apple - Tea Punch

(4 portions) Prepare 2 cups of tea, and pour into a small saucepan. Add the apple juice, cinnamon and honey, to taste. Heat but do not boil. Serve in glass cups, decorated with small, thin slices of apple.

### Orange - Tea Punch

(9-10 portions) Add the spices in small pieces to the tea, and wait 5 minutes. Add the wine (reduce the amount of wine, if you wish to lower the alcohol content.) Heat and add the lemon... Drink and enjoy!



# Cracks in the communist bloc

Some of Eastern Europe's leaders are easing controls over their economies in an effort to boost productivity

VIENNA (Reuters). — Communist economies do not usually have bankruptcy or unemployment, or American business consultants, or a bond market, or talk of monetarism.

Hungary's does, and perhaps other Eastern European members of the communist trading bloc Comecon will do in future.

Czechoslovakia may still recoil from the phrase "economic reform." But a Reuters survey shows that most Comecon members are responding to Soviet calls for greater efficiency by adopting tactics employed in Western economies.

They are beginning to pay by results and to give individuals more involvement and responsibility at work. Even Romania, long a model of the Stalinist centralized economy, is devolving some power to regional authorities and enterprises.

"First of all the communists centralized everything and cut people off from everything," a Western commercial attaché in Budapest observes. "Now they have to run around and create individuality-oriented groups to involve people."

Hungary has blazed the trail of Eastern European economic reform since 1968 and, although its economy has stagnated in recent years, personal living standards have risen dramatically.

A small private sector has brought bright boutiques and restaurants to the streets, joint ventures with Western firms have proliferated, state firms elect their managers, large companies conduct their own foreign trade and Budapest has Eastern Europe's only bond market.

Retired U.S. managers will be hired by state enterprises next year as efficiency consultants, and New Zealand farmers are teaching Hungarians how best to raise sheep.

The word "unemployment" — anathema to orthodox communism —

has been in the air in Hungary since Eastern Europe's first effective bankruptcy law came in on September 1. Up to 200,000 workers in inefficient industry will be "reallocated," by 1990.

With further banking reforms already planned, veteran Hungarian leader Janos Kadar denies that the changes are capitalistic.

But a Western attaché comments: "A lot of these reforms are designed to get companies run as if they were in a market economy.... They want all the things the market economy does."

None of the Soviet Union's other five Comecon partners in Eastern Europe is as radical as Hungary, but all are taking at least tentative steps to reform.

In Bulgaria, a new management code gave more independence and incentives to state companies from January 1. Working groups inside firms may organize their own work. The official Bulgarian news agency, BTA, quoted economics professor Marko Markov as saying recently that "the old methods of management cannot help overcome the slowing down of the rates of economic development and certain wasteful attitudes."

Czechoslovakia fears that loosened central economic control could undermine political control, as happened in the so-called "Prague Spring" of 1968. Government spokesman Frantisek Kounil told Reuters this autumn the country was not interested in Hungarian-style market socialism and had not had good experiences in private business.

But party chief Gustav Husak last month announced "important measures" from January 1 to boost efficiency and give individual enterprises more self-determination.

One success story to have emerged as a symbol of anti-bureaucratic endeavour over the past 20 years is the Slusovice farm cooperative in Eastern Moravia, with incentive-based management, wide pay differentials.... and a computer factory.

East Germany has the highest standard of living in Comecon and seems content to rest on its laurels. A party congress last April confirmed the economic policies of the



Two types of communism: On line at a Prague food store (above) and a shopping street in Budapest.



last 15 years. The country is resisting calls for reform on the basis that it already has the efficient centralized economy sought by the Soviet Union.

Moscow took East Germany as a model when decreeing that large combines should have more independence to carry out foreign trade without interference from ministries.

Poland is taking a variety of measures to reform its debt-laden economy, although Western observers say they often end in deadlock because of bureaucratic obstruction, a lack of real political will and suspicion of private capital.

A law to allow joint ventures with Western Partners was introduced six months ago, but only one has so far

been created — between the state airline Lot and the Austrian construction company Ilbau. Forty more are under discussion.

Four Polish banks and two ministries teamed up this month to create a new stock bank to promote exports.

Romania prefers to say "reorganization" than "reform." But this year it introduced a system of rewards and penalties for employees exceeding or failing to meet their quotas.

"The aim is to increase the responsibility of everybody from workers to ministers," the economics editor of Romania's Communist Party newspaper *Scinteia* told Reuters this month. "Wages are no longer fixed but flexible."

## THE TAX BURDEN/Jeff Broide

### Questionable practices

Could you please advise whether or not the U.S. and Israel have a double-tax convention and if so, what are its basic provisions. (A.E., Jerusalem)

There is no double-tax treaty between Israel and the U.S.; the proposed treaty was initiated in 1978 but has never been ratified. However, it should be noted that Israel and most other Western countries do provide for certain credits in calculating the tax liability from dealings with countries with whom there is no double-tax convention.

I am 53 years old and make payments to the National Insurance Institute (NII) as well as to the British equivalent. What portion of these benefits can my wife and I expect? (Howard Goldsmith, Jerusalem)

Dividends earned on U.S. stocks or interest earned on U.S. bonds are taxable if the income is received in Israel. But it should be emphasized that this is based on a very strict reading of the law.

Unfortunately I cannot offer an opinion as to the British pension, but suggest that you consult someone proficient in British laws. As regards your NII pension, such pension is payable at the age of 70 for men and 65 for women. However, if you limit your employment so that it not exceed certain amounts (at present NIS456 monthly for an individual; NIS611 for a couple), you may be entitled to earlier pensions. Such minimum income excludes, among others, overseas pensions payable under foreign law or under an overseas work contract.

I have read with much interest your article on "When is it capital income?" of November 13 and would like to ask the following: I am about to sell the business I have managed for over 30 years and will receive a large sum for goodwill. Do I have to pay any taxes for selling the goodwill and if so, what and how much are the taxes? (A reader in Netanya)

Goodwill is taxable under Israeli income tax law under the sections dealing with capital gains tax. The law distinguishes between the tax on the real gain and that on the inflationary portion of the gain. The former is taxable at regular income tax rates and the latter at 10 per cent, but the marginal rate of tax on the capital gain in total may not exceed 50 per cent.

A distinction is made between the tax on goodwill where no amount was ever paid on the original acquisition of the business, and where, in fact, such investment in goodwill was made. Where no amount was originally laid out for goodwill, the inflationary portion is calculated from the middle of the period extending between the date of original acquisition of the business and the

date of the sale. You have omitted certain information that would assist in calculating your tax liability here; but that would seem that if on the original acquisition roughly it would seem that if on the original acquisition of your business you did not pay for goodwill, then on the sale of the business something like 99 per cent of the amount received for goodwill would be liable to the tax at 10 per cent (being the inflationary portion of the gain).

The balance would be taxed at ordinary rates. It should be noted that on the sale of goodwill you will also be liable for value-added tax. I must stress that my answer is based on certain assumptions and may change somewhat if in fact certain of the facts are levied. I would appreciate knowing exactly what taxes are levied. I am holding dual Israeli-American citizenship. Is it better to hold them and collect dividends, or sell them and take cash? Should they be kept in a U.S. bank or transferred to Israel? (A. Berlin, Karkur)

Income received by a new immigrant or capital gains made by the immigrant from a foreign source, and taxable only because received in Israel, are exempt from taxes for seven years from the date of immigration. Income tax is generally levied on income from an Israeli source or if received in Israel. It is income received in Israel that is of significance in tax planning for new immigrants, particularly after the seven-year period has elapsed. (This seven-year exemption is exercised at the discretion of the Treasury which, in practice, generally grants it.)

A capital gain by a new immigrant, made on the sale of an asset outside Israel and held prior to becoming an immigrant, is exempt from capital gains tax, if sold within seven years of immigration. Interest earned by new immigrants on foreign currency deposits (patach accounts) are exempt from income tax during the first 20 years from the date of immigration, on condition that the money is held with local commercial banks.

It should be noted that this latter exemption does not cover income earned from any source other than interest, on foreign currency deposits held with Israeli banks by new immigrants.

It should now be apparent that dividends earned on U.S. stocks or interest earned on U.S. bonds are taxable (in your case, that is 15 years in Israel) if the income is received in Israel. But it should be emphasized that this is based on a very strict reading of the law. However, any gains made from the sale of these stocks or bonds will be liable to the capital gains tax in Israel regardless of whether received here or not. Finally, if the investments were realized and the money transferred to Israel and invested in local banks, then the interest on them are exempt from income tax as explained above.

These matters are highly complex and may be planned in such a way as to avoid or reduce the tax burden. But this does require careful tax planning before pursuing any course of action.

The writer is a Certified Public Accountant. Questions may be addressed to him c/o The Jerusalem Post.

## But reforms must address export woes

### Private farmers back Nissim

BY SIMON LOUISON

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — While Finance Minister Moshe Nissim's new economic plan faces flak from all directions, one staunch group of supporters believes it should go even further.

The Farmers Federation's backing has been important to Nissim, not just in bringing other farming groups, such as the moshavim and kibbutzim movements into line, but also for pressuring the Manufacturers Association to support the plan. When the leaders of the country's most important non-union economic groups met Prime Minister Shamir last month to discuss the treasury plan, it was the farmers teaming up with the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and contractors who pressured the manufacturers into supporting the plan in principle.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Farmers Federation President Eliahu Izakson says he believes the interests of industry and agriculture are closely allied. The manufacturers' opposition to economic reform stems from the tax breaks and low-cost diverted credit they have been getting until now, Izakson believes. Directed credit is loans apportioned by the government at below-market interest rates.

While farmers are totally in favour of capital market reform, because the present high cost of credit is one of their main concerns, the manufac-



Eliahu Izakson

"I believe there will be reform, but the rehabilitation of productivity in the long run is the next step. Low pay is a function of low productivity."

turers stand to lose their benefits.

However, farmers and manufacturers are in agreement on what they see as the two main requirements of reform: the need for overhauling the tax system and the need to support exporters. The plan, if successfully implemented, addresses the former but leaves the latter unanswered, Izakson says.

Excessive tax rates, particularly for high-income groups, acts as a disincentive for productivity. He believes it is not just important to lower the marginal rates, but to change the grades. Even if Nissim achieves a drop in the top marginal rate to 45 per cent, it will only match Western European rates and not equal the new U.S. ceiling of 33 per cent.

The second problem is the lack of incentive for exporters.

"Government must realize that exports, which are the key to economic growth, will not increase by themselves. We can only be involved in international trade if exporting is rewarding. At present, exports to the U.S. are actually losing money."

Izakson rejects devaluation as the means to assist exporters. "I don't consider devaluation a reply to the [shekel/dollar] exchange freeze, because within a few weeks the benefits will be quickly eroded. We made the mistake from 1980-85 of using devaluation as the panacea for the economy's ills," he says.

The government must find other ways to assist exporters.

Izakson believes the economy will improve in the short term if tax reform and exporters' problems can be solved. But for long-term improvement, the country must increase its productivity. Israel's don't produce enough per capita, and the prevailing low wages are essentially a reflection of that. Izakson notes that even when Israeli plants are automated on a scale comparable with other countries, productivity is still too low.

The solution, he maintains, is to link salaries to productivity. Until this is achieved both workers and the economy will suffer.

"I believe there will be reform, but the rehabilitation of productivity in the long run is the next step. Low pay is a function of low productivity."

Izakson says his own sector, the 10,000 independent farmers, is in a strong position today because of its self-reliance. While the moshavim and kibbutzim are weighed down with \$1.2 billion in debts, the farmers are smiling.

During the period of hyperinflation in the late 1970s and early 1980s, other agricultural sectors borrowed money from abroad and engaged in speculation — in assets outside their special fields. This is the root of their current problems, Izakson says.

While he and the federation were accused of money manipulation and of being old-fashioned for failing to invest in non-farm activities, they are now seen as an island of "peace and solvency," Izakson says.

The ultimate vindication of Izakson's policies came earlier this week when moshav members in southern Israel decided not to sign mutual guarantee agreements with their cooperative. By setting up their individual accounts, Izakson contends, the moshavniks were "liberating themselves from the limitations imposed by the community" and joining the independent farmers.

## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 This car fitting is switched over with great joy (4-5)
- 8 Cycle retailer and free agent (7-6)
- 11 Evening accessory? (4)
- 12 Joyful coppers in countryside (5)
- 13 Move slowly in order (4)
- 16 Drinking capacity of king in wicked environment (7)
- 17 Injunction to gardener to stop work and dance (7)
- 18 Generator, one that draws nothing (7)
- 20 Young imitator gives story material to jazz-fan (4-3)
- 21 Gain by Labour (4)
- 22 Gem of small type (5)
- 23 This sea-bird casts feathers tail first (4)
- 26 Take a songbird out—it was fun for kids (5-8)
- 27 Hairstyle worn by punk bird (9)

### DOWN

- 21 would go over them if contracted the same (4)
- 3 It provides an outlook from orbit (7)
- 4 Comprehensive, fashionable wisdom (2,3)
- 5 Division of race producing excitement (4)
- 6 Safety-catch for an estate-car? (8-5)
- 7 Strengthening check for mortar (13)
- 9 Dark solstitial time for Oberon to appear? (9)
- 10 Oriental colony in Longton, for example (9)
- 14 Bid made when treasure-chest does not open (5)
- 15 Plea's changed, bound over, end of Sessions (5)
- 19 Tender too much for a lot (7)
- 20 Vulgar song heard from privateer (7)
- 24 Chap running rings round race of Man (4)
- 25 Bad time for Caesar that is classical, almost (4)

## SCRIBBLE PAD

Yesterday's Solution

WING CHAIR STATE  
OUTSIDER APLOAT  
KNOW BEARINGS  
PRESIDE PAINTER  
SLANTING ADAM  
MISSAL OUTRIGHT  
ANGER REGULATOR

ACROSS: 1 Hoarse, 4 Tales, 8 Alter, 9 Imitate, 10 Treadle, 11 Rend, 12 Rod, 14 Open, 15 Also, 18 Tip, 21 Only, 23 Referee, 25 Certain, 26 Dingo, 27 Reach, 28 Allego. DOWN: 1 Health, 2 Antwerp, 3 Strident, 4 Toll, 5 Leave, 6 Steady, 7 Rider, 13 Daffodil, 16 Strange, 17 Soccer, 19 Prone, 20 Remote, 22 Larva, 24 Gash.

## QUICK CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 Injure
- 3 Nickname
- 9 Added clause
- 10 Furious, mad
- 11 Rabble
- 13 Loss by selling cheap
- 14 Settler abroad
- 16 Something received from ancestor
- 18 Small song-bird
- 20 Terminate
- 22 Not public
- 23 Division of window
- 25 Night-music
- 26 Tax on goods, etc

### DOWN

- 1 Seraglio
- 2 Free
- 4 Business room
- 5 Fancy
- 6 Oceanic gull
- 7 Of unstable
- 8 Malay dagger
- 12 Army rank
- 14 Breaks free from captors
- 15 Forbear
- 17 Have in mind
- 19 Mound
- 21 Simple song
- 24 Wildebeest

## GENERAL ASSISTANCE

### EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Atid, 31 David Yellin, 227788; Balsam, Salah Eddin, 727315; Shu'fat, Shu'fat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 262058. Tel Aviv: Benny, 174 Dzemgoff, 222386; Kupat Holim Clinic, 7 Amsterdam, 225142. Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Shuali, E. Yaffe, Ra'anana.

Netanya: Netanya, 11 Herzl, 22642. Haifa: Hanassi, 35 Hanassi, 333912.

## DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, ophthalmology), Bikur Holim (internal, E.N.T.), Shaare Zedek (obstetrics, surgery, orthopedics). Tel Aviv: Rotah (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery). Netanya: Lamedo

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In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, number of your local station is in the front of the phone directory.

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Carmiel 988555 Netanya 23333  
Dan Region 7811111 Petah Tikva 9231111  
Eilat 723 Rehovot 491333  
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Jerusalem Institute for Drug Problems. Tel. 663528, 663802, 14 Bethlehem Rd. The National Poison Control Centre at Rambam Hospital, phone (04) 529205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning. Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433300, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

THE JERUSALEM POST  
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### The Israel Telephone Directory SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN ENGLISH

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PRICE: NIS 10

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Ashkelon: Yoker, 95 Herzl St.  
Roshan, Central Bus Station  
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Kiryat Gat: Schuster, Commercial Centre  
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## MARKET PLACE

LARRY WELSH

Wall Street  
warms  
Toronto

A growing consensus that the U.S. economy will grow in 1987, helping Canada's export sector, and a more optimistic outlook for resource industries have helped push Toronto share prices into record territory.

The Toronto Stock Exchange 300 composite index advanced 15.8 points to 3139.3 in trading earlier yesterday, eclipsing a record high of 3134.49 set last April 29, as well as a record high close of 3129.11 set April 16.

"I think people are beginning to realize that the party is not over," says Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.'s chief economist Michael Manfred.

Manfred says that although the economy is certainly not booming, it shows no signs of weakening. "I can't think of a better environment for stocks than modest growth with relatively low inflation."

Manfred predicts the Toronto market could show a 12-month increase of between 18 and 20 per cent, lifting the composite index to a range of 3600 to 3800.

Wall Street's record rise this week helped lead the Toronto rally, he says.

The Toronto market advanced 53.8 points in the two prior sessions, while the Dow Jones industrial climbed 75 points during the first two sessions of 1987, amid analysts' predictions that the closely watched U.S. index could soon top 2000.

As well, the Toronto market appears to be shaking off disappointment over corporate earnings during the second half of last year, which tended to hold the market below the record levels set last April.

Molson Placements Canada Inc. analyst John Ing says U.S. economic growth will help Canadian export industries, and strong share prices for those industries will fuel a rise in the market.

Ing says that Canada's recent move to impose a 15 per cent on softwood, exports to the U.S. should not hurt share prices of forest products companies. "It has been known for some time that there would be some sort of levy against the industry, so it comes as no surprise. Share prices have already been adequately discounted."

Ing says the Toronto market's resource sector has provided much of the support for the recent rally, as the price outlook improves for some commodities, especially oil.

"Last year at this time there was uncertainty about oil prices, and now there is a belief that oil prices will be much better."

Tuesday several major Canadian integrated oil companies increased their posted prices for crude by about the equivalent of 58 U.S. cents a barrel, the second increase in nine days.

However, Richardson Green-shield's of Canada Ltd. analyst Murray Grossman says the strength of Toronto's oil and gold - sector stocks does not necessarily preclude higher inflation or interest rates. Resource stocks usually strengthen when inflation increases.

But Grossman links the advance by resource stocks to the Wall Street rally, which is based on strength in the bond market and expectations of lower interest rates. "So our cyclical resource, more inflation-oriented stocks are going up, but not for reasons specific to themselves," (Reuter)

**National water carrier started up again**

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The pumps of the national water carrier on the shores of Lake Kinneret were started up again yesterday after a six week shutdown for repairs.

Making the announcement, a spokesman for Mekorot said that the water carrier will send 650,000 cubic metres of water a day to the south to replenish the depleted aquifer along the coastal plain and to make it possible to stop using local wells there.

The spokesman also noted that the rains had so far sent 100 million cu. m. of water into the Kinneret, which was an unusually large amount.

Imports climbed  
16% in '86 to \$9.3b.

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter  
Israel's merchandise imports jumped 15.7 per cent in 1986 from the year before to \$9.3 billion, with the upward trend accelerating in the second half of the year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported.

In July - December the average level of imports, excluding diamonds and fuel, was \$624 million a month, 38 per cent more than in the same period last year, the bureau said.

Imports of consumer goods surged in 1986 to a total of one billion dollars some 10.5 per cent of the total merchandise imports. The bureau said imports of consumer goods jumped 64 per cent from 1985. These included a sharp 92 per cent surge in the import of consumer durables worth \$440m.

The bureau remarked that during the second half of the year, imports of consumer durables averaged \$45m., 48 per cent above their level for the first half of 1986 and double the level of the second half of 1985.

Some 73 per cent of all merchandise imports were raw materials, which totalled \$4.3b., compared with \$3.4b. in the previous year. Imports of investment goods, meanwhile, totalled \$1.6b., some 16.5 per cent of total merchandise imports. Imports of investment goods rose 16 per cent from 1985, with virtually all the increase occurring in the second half of the year.

The large increase in imports registered last year was partially offset by the slump in oil prices, which last summer fell as low as \$9 a barrel from \$30 at the start of the year. The value of fuel imported in 1986 amounted to \$920m., down 39 per cent from the previous year.

The bureau figures showed that 47 per cent of the goods imported came from European Community countries, compared with 40 per cent in 1985. Imports from West Germany, Britain, France and Italy constituted 36 per cent of the total, while those from the U.S. accounted for 22 per cent.

Authority slates \$57m.  
for ports expansion

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

HAIFA. - The Ports Authority plans to spend \$57 million this year on renovation and development work to cope with growing cargo traffic, authority chairman Shmuel Razieli told a press conference yesterday.

The authority hopes to finance the development work entirely from government appropriations, Razieli said, although it is entitled by law to raise the funds on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The authority is seeking a far larger development budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which begins April 1, than it was granted in either of the previous two years, he said. But Razieli pointed out, the Ports Authority earned more than \$53m. in 1986. In its 25 years, the authority has never exercised its option to raise funds on the stock market, he added.

The development funds are to be spent equally on port-expansion work and acquisition of modern cargo-handling equipment, said Razieli.

In Haifa port, the main work will be in strengthening and deepening of the Dagon silo-quay so that by next January it will be able to accommodate the big 66,000 ton "panamax" grain carriers that now serve the grain import trade. In addition, the authority plans to extend the chemical quay in the Kishon auxiliary harbour to enable it to accommodate two ships at a time and to deepen the Kishon basin entrance to allow almost all the merchant marine ships to use the Israel Shipyards for repairs.

The authority also has slated the expansion and improvement of the port's passenger terminal.

In addition, a 2,000-square-metre, \$2m. cold storage facility will be built in the main port to save exporters of farm produce in the north the

long haul to Ashdod. It is to be ready by the next citrus-export season.

In Ashdod, the No. 9 wharf is to be completed to serve bulk shipments, mainly of coal for the new Ashkelon power station. In Eilat, only minor work will be carried out.

Razieli noted that after 20 years of negotiations, Eilat port had finally agreed to adopt the Haifa port work norms, which will raise both productivity and their pay. The agreement which allows for fewer hours during the summer heat, will make about 15 of the 257 workers redundant. They will be retired by natural attrition.

Razieli announced that preliminary plans were already being drawn up for putting Israel Railways on its feet after it is placed under the control of the authority. Special attention will be paid to suburban trains to reduce metropolitan congestion, he said.

Plans are under consideration to reclaim another 300 dunams of land from the sea at the eastern end of Haifa port for the next power station to be built by the Israel Electric Corp. The station will be powered by coal unloaded at the site.

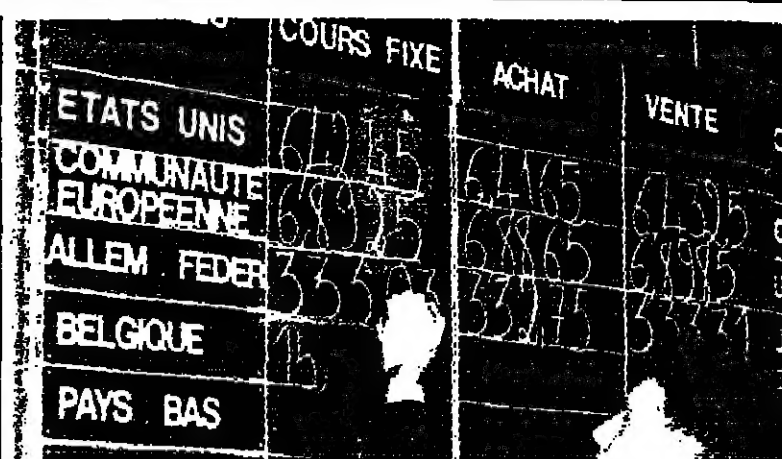
Authority officials said a study comparing tariffs at Israeli ports with such harbours, as Trieste, Marseilles, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Hamburg and Felixstowe, showed Israel's rates to be up to five times cheaper, for all but a small number of cargoes. That was true even taking into account the authority's 2 per cent *ad valorem* wharf fee, which the European ports don't charge.

Officials attributed the lower fees in Israel to the sharp competition between European ports, which led them to make huge investments in facilities and manpower, to provide better service.

"We, too, provide an excellent service, but not a super one, at very much lower prices. We think this is better for the clients," Razieli said.

**CORRECTION**

Aharon Meir's new post at Osem Foods Industries Ltd. was reported incorrectly in yesterday's *Jerusalem Post*. Meir was appointed chairman of the company.



A clerk writes in the latest fixing for the Deutschmark, at 333.03 French francs to the mark, on the Paris Stock Exchange yesterday. Bonn refused to knuckle under to French pressure to revalue its currency. (Reuter)

Germans reject French  
demand to revalue mark

BONN (Reuter). - West Germany yesterday ruled out a revaluation of the Deutschmark despite massive French pressure on Bonn to restore calm to Europe's foreign currency markets.

Economics Minister Martin Bangemann told reporters that the West German currency was very strong but had an "appropriate value" within the European Monetary System (EMS) at the present time. "There is no reason to revalue the mark," he said.

Despite intervention by both the West German central bank, the Bundesbank, and the Bank of France yesterday, the French franc and the Danish crown remained weak.

Dealers reported continuing strains within the EMS, a system in which eight West European currencies float against each other inside specified limits that were last realigned last April. The aim of the EMS is to prevent wild fluctuations in exchange rates.

At the official currency fixing in Frankfurt yesterday, the franc was set at 30.025 marks per 100 francs, just above its intervention floor of 30.030.

The dollar, under pressure be-

cause of a huge U.S. trade deficit and domestic political concern over the future of the Reagan administration, was fixed at 1.9283 marks in Frankfurt. The Bundesbank supported the U.S. currency in what dealers saw as an effort to defuse upward pressure on the mark.

Foreign exchange dealers have linked the franc's plight to France's political difficulties caused by a wave of strikes.

The mark has also benefited from the falling dollar and at the same time surged against the French currency, which this week plunged to its lowest permitted level in the EMS.

Yesterday, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac launched an attack on West German authorities, accusing them of egotism for not doing more to stabilize exchange rates.

"There is a crisis of the mark and not of the franc - it is up to the Germans to take action," he said, in a remark currency dealers interpreted as a call for the mark's revaluation.

Under the rules of EMS, set up in 1979 to maintain currency stability in Europe, central banks are obliged to intervene on the markets when member currencies reach predetermined limits.

Inspectors checked on whether prices were being displayed in accordance with Industry Ministry regulations and whether they were within price guidelines. Fines were imposed on 16 violators, and a coffee shop proprietor who was charging nearly double the official price for doughnuts will be brought to court on January 11.

**ISRAELI BOND SALES** reached a record, \$603 million in 1986. The Israel Bond Organization reported yesterday, terming last year's "the most productive bond campaign in the organization's 35-year history."

Bond leaders attributed the success, an increase of \$98m. from the previous year, to the improved economic situation in Israel, the variety of Israeli bond financial instruments and close cooperation among the professional staff.

"The response is a reflection of the heightened unity of the Jewish people abroad with Israel as the nation moves forward in economic stability," said International Campaign Chairman David Hermelin.

**VERED HAGALIL WILL INVEST** \$3.5 million to construct another chocolate factory. The Safed-based company's single plant is operating on three shifts and cannot keep up with the demand, according to a company spokesman.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

Industry Ministry  
calls for boycott  
of Caterpillar

The Industry and Trade Ministry said Tuesday it was recommending that the government take measures against the American construction equipment maker Caterpillar Corp. for allegedly boycotting Israeli parts and components makers.

Caterpillar has sold hundreds of millions of dollars of equipment to Israel, including the government, and is the country's principal supplier of such equipment, the ministry said. The ministry said it had tried to persuade the American company to buy components and spare parts from Israeli manufacturers on a competitive basis.

Industry Ministry sources said that while the company announced a year-and-a-half ago it was ready to cooperate, it has done nothing about it.

**ELEVEN PER CENT** of Tel Aviv restaurants and coffee shops are charging excessively high prices, a survey of 177 such establishments by the Tourism, and Industry and Trade ministries has found.

## Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

## MARKET STATISTICS

Indices:			Turnovers:		
General Share Index	100.35	+0.89%	Share - total	NIS 12,704,100	
Non-Bank Index	100.84	+0.23%	Arrangement	NIS 4,880,200	
Insurance	99.96	+1.34%	Non-Bank	NIS 8,014,900	
Commerce, Services	98.47	+0.20%	Bonds - total	NIS 3,407,000	
Real Estate	100.60	-0.47%	Index-linked	NIS 2,180,500	
Industries	100.81	+0.23%	Dollar-linked	NIS 1,228,300	
Textiles	100.99	+0.25%	Treasury Bills	NIS 2,616,000	
Metals	100.81	-0.01%			
Electronics	102.58	+0.07%	Share Movements:		
Chemicals	99.45	+0.29%	Advances	129	(93)
Industrial Invt.	101.16	+0.83%	of which 5%+	1	(10)
Investment Cos.	101.54	+0.84%	"buyers only"	1	(10)
General Bond Index	100.35	+0.22%	of which 5%+	20	(21)
Index-linked Bonds	100.37	+0.19%	"sellers only"	0	(5)
Fully-linked	100.14	+0.13%	Unchanged	136	(131)
Partially-linked	100.72	+0.28%	Trading Halt	30	(24)
Dollar-linked Bonds	99.53	+0.43			
Short-term 0-2 yrs	100.59	+0.32%	Bond Market Trends:		
Medium-term 2-5 yrs	100.28	+0.14%	Index-linked:		
Long-term 5+ yrs	100.07	+0.13%	3% fully-linked	Mixed to 1%	

## SELECTED PRICE QUOTATIONS

Name	Price	Volume	% 000NIS change	Trade & Services				Elion			
				Melir Extra	1485	1785	-0.2	Art	31500	7	-
				Supersol 2	7660	1968	-	Clit Electronics	905	144	+0.3
				Dolek r	3850	2230	+1.4	Spectronix 1	2198	1132	-
				Leichtner	14200	46	-	T.A.T. 1	4898	92	-
				Cold Storage	1488	5.02	-5.0	Ackenstein 1	840	2163	+3.3
				Dan Hotels	2550	218	-	Agan 5	115	32	-
				Varden Hotel	1650	225	-	Alliance	2300	139	+0.9
				Itelson 1	21500	18	-7.3	Dexter	2745	87	-
				Team 1	1000	2152	-6.1	Fertilizers	4900	44	-3.0
								Harfa Chem.	453	13248	+0.4
								Teva	9000	154	+0.3
								Dead Sea r	3900	6206	-
								Petrochem.	530	5218	-
								Neca Chem.	6860	503	-
								Frutaron	14000	31	-2.1
								Hadera Paper	279000	52	+0.5
								Central Trade	8550	270	+1.5
								Koor p	7100000	0	+2.0
								Clit Inds.	1577	10498	-

## Dow sets third straight record

NEW YORK (Reuter). - The key Dow Jones index closed just short of the landmark 2,000 level as stock prices continued the rousing gains which began with the new year.

After rising nearly 80 points in the three-day rally that started last Friday, the Dow Jones industrial average tacked on another 19 points to finish at a record 1,994 according to preliminary figures. Shortly before the close it got as high as 1,998.

Advances led declines by a three-to-one margin on heavy volume of 190 million shares.

Firmness in the bond market and an abundance of new year cash to be invested provided the fuel for the market's continued advance towards the 2,000 level, traders said.

Tandy rose 2 3/4 to 48 1/2. Ford gained 2 3/4 to finish at 63 3/4. Polaroid rose by 2 1/2 to end at 71 3/4. Control Data slipped 1 to 26 1/2.

Because of a failure in communications last night the full New York stock exchange prices were not available.

## KNESSET

(Continued from Page 1)

punish those responsible for the shares crash, but Japhet, who had been strongly condemned in the report, was now being offered incredible rewards.

Virshubski, reminding the Knesset that he generally opposed retroactive legislation or laws aimed at specific individuals, said that in this case he thought the Knesset must intervene to overturn the agreement made with Japhet.

The affair marked a turning point in Israel's public life. From it must come far greater care in electing officials charged.

For Peled, Japhet's retirement terms were the logical conclusion of his life-style at the bank, with a special elevator, his own kitchen and a special cook. The Knesset, he said, should back the bank's employees in their struggle for minimal wages.

Shafat urged that the government take action. In underwriting the bank shares it could be said to own the bank *de facto*. The latest scandal threatened to set dangerous norms and must be dealt with radically.

Replying for the government, Amior read a letter from Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno to Finance Minister Moshe Nissim. The letter said that the bank was examining the decision-making process of Leumi board and the possibilities of reversing the agreement with Japhet.

But for Ramon that was not enough. There were criminal aspects to be investigated, he alleged. Would such criminal acts receive the same cavalier treatment as the public aspects of the case, he asked. The Knesset, he vowed, would not let the matter rest.

FINANCIAL DATA:  
ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

## ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

## SHEKEL INTEREST RATES

PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.58% per month

Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	Last Updated	Tapas	Pakam 7-Day	Pakam 30-Day
LEUMI	7.1	8-17.75%	8-18.25%	12-20.25%
HAPALIM	15.12	8-16.00%	8-16.50%	12-18.12%
DISCOUNT	17.12	7-16.00%	8-16.20%	14-18.50%
MIZRAHI	1.12	8-17%	6-17.50%	6-19.50%
FIRST INT'L	11.11	10-16%	11-17.20%	13-19.50%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.

(Tapes: demand deposit paying daily interest.

Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 99 days.)

## PATAN - FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES

(January 7)

	MINIMUM DEP	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
USD (\$100,000)	5,500	5,500	5,500	5,500
STG (10,000 pounds)	9,375	9,375	9,375	9,375
DMK (100,000 marks)	3,750	3,750	3,750	3,750
SFR (50,000 francs)	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
YEN (3,000,000 yen)	2,875	2,875	2,875	2,875

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

## SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (January 7)

CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS				'BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates
		Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
Currency basket	1	1.4870	1.5150			1.5047
U.S.A. Dollar	1	1.4713	1.4897	1.44	1.50	1.4803
Deutschmark	1	0.7641	0.7737	0.75	0.78	0.7676
Pound Sterling	1	2.1658	2.1828	2.11	2.20	2.1783
French Franc	1	0.2292	0.2320	0.22	0.23	0.2304
Japanese Yen	100	0.0012	0.0428	0.91	0.95	0.9357
Dutch Florin	1	0.5750	0.5842	0.56	0.59	0.5765
Swiss Franc	1	0.9098	0.9201	0.89	0.93	0.9124
Swedish Krona	1	0.2174	0.2201	0.21	0.22	0.2187
Norwegian Krone	1	0.1984	0.2019	0.20	0.21	0.2007
Danish Krone	1	0.2015	0.2040	0.20	0.21	0.2026
Finnish Mark	1	0.3084	0.3122	0.31	0.32	0.314
Canadian Dollar	1	1.0712	1.0848	1.06	1.08	1.0787
Australian Dollar	1	0.9769	0.9982	0.90	0.99	0.9828
S. African Rand	1	0.6820	0.6834			0.6883
Belgian Franc	10	0.3802	0.3847	0.35	0.37	0.3885
Austrian Shilling	10	1.0834	1.0970	1.06	1.11	1.0902
Italian Lira	1000	1.0913	1.1050	1.0871	1.12	1.0981
Jordanian Dinar	1	—	—	3.53	3.58	4.2041
Georgian Pound	1	—	—	0.73	0.77	0.7920
ESP	1	1.5802	1.5899			1.5893



# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## Public (and bank) betrayed

A WALL-TO-WALL coalition such as the one that emerged in parliament yesterday is not too common. It took what Knesset members portrayed as the biggest banking heist in Israel's history — and a legally protected heist at that — to produce virtual unanimity across the political spectrum, from Tehiya to Rakah.

The immediate target of the Knesset's fury was Ernest Japhet, the former chairman and general manager of the Jewish Agency-owned Bank Leumi, who stepped down last year under public pressure following criticism by the Bejski Commission of his role in the bank share collapse. Earlier this week a newspaper report disclosed that Mr. Japhet had retired with the promise of \$5 million in severance pay in addition to \$25,000-30,000 monthly pension.

That a man who bore as heavy a responsibility as did Mr. Japhet for driving his bank — one of the country's majors — into the bank-share collapse should be so richly rewarded for his labours, seemed worse than scandalous. And the fact that some of Mr. Japhet's former aides had been the beneficiaries of similarly eye-popping, if proportionately smaller, retirement handouts did little to appease the wall-to-wall opposition.

But the blame for the Japhet arrangement was placed by Knesset members, as it should have been, at the door of Leumi's board of governors, which had endorsed it unanimously, and apparently without any compunction.

How could the board have done it? There were mitigating circumstances. The arrangement was originally negotiated a few months before the bank shares collapsed in October 1983. Mr. Japhet was then one of the highest paid officials in the land, earning close to one million dollars annually as basic salary and bonuses varying with Leumi's profits. He was then believed to be doing a fine job, so it must have struck the board as only fair that he should on retirement be given five years' salary as severance pay, and a handsome monthly pension to boot.

What board members, including Jewish Agency Chairman Arye Dulzin, dutifully ignored was that the bank's profits under Mr. Japhet had in large measure been the product of his manipulation — euphemistically called regulation — of the bank's shares, of which he had indeed been doing a fine job.

But then these government-supported banking festivities — by no means confined to Leumi — ended, and share values came crashing down. The board might after that crisis, or at least after the publication of the Bejski Report, have taken another look at the arrangement, and sent Mr. Japhet away with drastically reduced emoluments. But it did nothing of the sort.

True, retirement deals of the Japhet sort would not be deemed out of line, let alone immoral, in well-run private banks in the U.S., or even on the European continent. But Israel is not the U.S., nor even Britain, and Leumi — a public, not a private bank — is still afraid today only by grace of an over-munificent government.

Just a little over two months ago Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno warned the heads of the commercial banks that in order to fully "rationalize" their businesses they would have to make further large cuts in their staffs and reduce the wages of their top executives. Leumi's new board chairman, Eli Hurvitz, formerly chairman of the Manufacturers Association, could not, had he only looked, have failed to notice the writing on the wall — which was plainly aimed far more at his own bank than at, say, Bank Hapoalim, where senior officers' salaries are almost ludicrously modest by comparison.

But Mr. Hurvitz chose not to look, evidently hoping that such closely guarded secrets as the size of the Japhet arrangement would never leak out, to arouse the Leumi employees and the entire country.

There can be no doubt as to what the country expects from the Leumi board members — those of them remaining after the resignation of industrialist Yosef Pecker, chief negotiator of the arrangement. It does not expect pious protestations of belated horror, such as emitted yesterday by Jewish Agency Chairman Arye Dulzin on his hurried return from abroad. It does expect them to come clean, and then resign. For they have betrayed the public trust vested in them.

Much more may be required to render unnecessary the bank's direct takeover by the government.

# Not all halachic conversions are fully Orthodox

Moshe Zemer

RABBI Yitzhak Peretz's resignation as interior minister was but the latest in the chain of events which he initiated when he refused to register Shoshana Miller as a Jew. An earlier link was his seemingly contradictory response to the High Court of Justice that he was willing to register her as Jewish with the addition of "converted." We must note that the court did not order Peretz to register Miller as a Jew, because he had already agreed to do so.

The court's decision centred on Peretz's registration formula, "Jew (converted)," which the justices prohibited. Furthermore, the court did not determine whether Ms. Miller was converted according to the Halacha. Paradoxically, it was the ultra-Orthodox minister who put his official stamp of halachic approval on Miller's conversion when he agreed to register her as a Jew. This paradox may be resolved by the following syllogism:

a. Whereas Rabbi Peretz contends that a gentile can become a Jew only if he undergoes conversion according to the Halacha and

b. Whereas it is agreed by everyone that Shoshana Miller was a gentile before she was converted and

c. Whereas Peretz agreed to register Miller as a Jew after she was converted and described her as a Jew by conversion,

d. Therefore it must follow that Rabbi Peretz gave his imprimatur to the conversion of Shoshana Miller and affirmed it as halachic.

The absurdity is not in the reasoning but in the reality. Peretz is caught in an inextricable conflict of roles of which he is unaware or pretends to be. His identity as an extremist Orthodox rabbi bound by the strict interpretation of the Halacha is constantly in conflict with his position as a minister of the government who affirmed loyalty to the secular laws of the Knesset. In order to obey the law of the land (in this case the Law of Return), he had to act contrary to his own view of the Halacha. After several months of advertising his conflict, he finally announced his choice of the third alternative — resignation. Whether this was a matter of religious conscience or political expediency remains to be seen.

CENTRAL to the minister's resignation and to the entire issue is whether Shoshana Miller was converted according to Jewish law. The basic requirements of the Halacha for conversion are circumcision, immersion and accepting the yoke of the commandments. Miller studied Judaism for an extended period of time, accepted the yoke of the commandments, and underwent immersion in a mikve (ritual bath) approved by the Denver Orthodox Jewish authorities. Furthermore, she fully participated in the Jewish religious life of her community including her role as a cantor. She fulfilled the mitzva of aliyah to Israel, which only a small minority of Jews by birth or by choice of any religious movement take upon themselves.

The Halacha is a developmental and pluralistic phenomenon, open to interpretation and change. According to the interpretation of Progressive Judaism, and indeed of most knowledgeable Jews, her conversion is certainly valid according to Jewish law. The religious establishment here claims that this is impossible. A priori, her conversion could not have

been halachic because it was carried out under the non-Orthodox auspices of the only Jewish congregation of Colorado Springs which is affiliated with both the Reform and Conservative movements. In the view of Orthodox officialdom, the identity of the rabbis presiding at the conversion takes precedence over the requirements of religious law.

Valid conversions supervised by Progressive or Conservative batei din in Israel, Europe and North America are automatically rejected by religious authorities in Israel. On the other hand, basketball players on Israeli teams have been the recipients of "quickie conversions" by Orthodox rabbis in New York and were then automatically registered as Jews. For a conversion to be valid "according to the Halacha" it must be sincere, "for the sake of heaven," not for the sake of sport. A sincere conversion entails accepting the precepts of the Jewish religion without ulterior motives. Most rabbis would gravely question the validity of this "sport conversion" which is motivated by joining the team and not by observing the Torah.

THE OFFICIAL rabbinate tells us that the term "halachic conversion" may be understood only in accordance with official Orthodox interpretation of Jewish law. Therefore, they claim, immersion, circumcision and especially the commitment of the candidate (kabbalat hamitzvot) must be seen through the microscope of Orthodoxy. There's the rub, for there is no one official halachic view on conversion acceptable to every Orthodox religious court.

To cite an extremist position, we find in the responsa of Rabbi Aaron Goldman of Argentina his demand that the only acceptable converts are those who live in a Jewish environment where everyone observes the mitzvot. If rabbinic courts had adopted all his stringent requirements including this one, conversion would have become virtually impossible.

A more lenient view was held by Rabbi Yehiel Yakov Weinberg, the last head of the Hildesheimer Rabbinical Seminary in Berlin. He permitted the conversion of a woman married to a Jew in a civil ceremony "because her conversion is not for the sake of marriage, for even if she did not convert, her husband would not divorce her...therefore the conversion is for the sake of heaven."

An almost identical position was taken by other outstanding rabbinic respondents such as the late Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog and the "Gaon of Dvinsk" (Russia), Rabbi Meir Simcha Hacohen.

In contrast to this permissive position, the Haifa District Court has repeatedly refused to convert women who married Jews in civil ceremonies. The court justified its refusal to accept the wife of a Haifa physician who had lived in Israel for many years by declaring that "the woman and her husband have continued to have forbidden sexual relations while she is a gentile, and now she has become pregnant by him, which proves that they do not wish to live according to Jewish Law."

WE CANNOT assume that "halachic" is synonymous with

"Orthodox" in matters of conversion. When former army chief chaplain Rabbi Shlomo Goren and his court converted Dr. Helen Seidman of Kibbutz Nahal Oz in 1970, several halachic requirements were cast aside. The late Dr. Seidman lived on a secular kibbutz where she could not observe all the commandments. According to former chief rabbi Ovadia Yosef, it is forbidden to accept such a candidate. Her husband, Benny Seidman, is a cohen and forbidden to marry a convert. The progressive rabbinical court, which first converted her, found solutions to these and many other problems.

Dr. Seidman submitted to an Orthodox conversion only because of the intense pressure exerted on her by the kibbutz movement in an attempt to save Golda Meir's government from the cabinet crisis caused by the registration of her previous conversion. Under Jewish Law it is forbidden to accept a person who is converting under duress.

No progressive beit din would have accepted a convert under such circumstances nor would it have conducted an "express conversion" within a matter of a few hours. All of this was done by Goren who to this day has refused to explain this non-halachic conversion, the validity of which has been questioned by Progressive and Orthodox rabbinic scholars alike.

It appears that this conversion supervised by Rabbi Goren as well as those of the basketballers were not in accordance with Jewish religious law, while Shoshana Miller's was. We may therefore conclude that there are Orthodox conversions which are non-halachic and non-Orthodox conversions which are halachic. Perhaps this insight will widen our perspective on the question of "conversion according to the Halacha."

Furthermore, Jewish law not only determines what is demanded of a convert, but also demands proper behaviour of born Jews toward a convert. Peretz's attempt to make a special mark on the identity card of all converts, non-Orthodox and Orthodox, constitutes very improper behaviour according to Jewish tradition. He violated the prohibition of the ancient sages that it is forbidden to remind a proselyte of his non-Jewish past. Since all Jews were once strangers in Egypt, we must be most careful of the sensitivities of the gerim (converts) of our day. Certainly it is forbidden to isolate them into a separate registration category with a special notation in their ID Cards. Even Jews without proselytes in their family were disturbed by Peretz's branding scheme because it aroused traumatic association of the Holocaust.

If Peretz were sincerely seeking religious and moral grounds for resigning, he might have found them in his own anti-halachic, amoral treatment of new immigrant converts in Israel. He and his like-minded colleagues should know that in Jewish tradition, "conversion according to Halacha" refers not only to the way one is accepted into the religion of Israel, but also how this convert is to be welcomed as a full and equal member of the House of Israel.

The writer is the president of the beit din of the Israel Council of Progressive Rabbis and rabbi of Kedem Synagogue. Tel Aviv.

## Dry Bones



## READERS' LETTERS

### INFORMATION ABOUT AIDS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir — While commendable in its intentions, the Ministry of Health is unfortunately taking credit for steps which it only claims to have taken ("Information drive on Aids urged" — December 30).

The article states: "The Health Ministry has focused its information campaign on organized groups of homosexuals, particularly through their internal newsletters."

The Society for the Protection of Personal Rights is the only homosexual organization in Israel and to date, we have not received any material from the ministry, which is well aware of our existence, as we were the organization which first approached it regarding Aids screening of donated blood and Aids testing in general.

The information which we distribute through our monthly newsletter comes to us from many sources, including the Israel Aids Task Force, an independent organization fighting for increased Aids research and

help for Aids victims, regardless of their lifestyles (homosexuals and heterosexuals alike).

Had we known about the intended "open line on Aids" sponsored by Kupat Holim Clalit and Kaplan Hospital, in advance of a notice in the press three days prior to its taking place, we would have notified our membership to phone in and receive this vital service.

We have been providing our own telephone service for the last five years; it operates three nights a week, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday, from 7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., at 03-625629, where callers — homosexuals, their families and friends — can receive advice as well as up-to-date information regarding Aids, where to be tested and other relevant information.

MARC TANNENBAUM,  
Society for the Protection  
of Personal Rights  
Tel Aviv.

### TWISTED LAW AND ORDER

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir — I am deeply distressed by the escalation of violence in Jerusalem and the West Bank these past few weeks. In particular, I find the fatal shooting on December 8 of Ramadan Zeitoun shocking.

I appreciate the necessity of a Jewish state — a place where Jews are guaranteed a measure of safety. I understand this with my heart and with the knowledge of my grandmother's flight from Germany, her desperate attempt to gain entrance to a country, any country, simply to get out. But I fail to understand how shooting a 12-year old boy in the head makes the Jewish people safer in this world. In a rational corner of

my mind, I can connect the concept of self-defence with the use of force. However, this connection has been exploited, twisted and stretched until we are left with bloody murder. This becomes obvious when an armed soldier kills a rock-throwing child within the context of "maintaining law and order."

Martin Luther King, Jr., said that a riot is a language of the people. As we start 1987 and the 20th year of occupation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, I hope we listen to the message behind the protests and respond with action other than violence.

AMY ROSS  
Jerusalem.

### SHOSHANA MILLER

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir — We refer to your article of December 12, "Shoshana Miller left no forwarding address," and wish to set the record straight.

The statement that she left no forwarding address for the hostel staff is misleading since she will not be returning there when she comes back. At the party given in her honour, she freely gave her address in the U.S. to anyone who asked.

It is only hearsay and conjecture that Shoshana will not be coming back. Those "who did a lot for her" are elated and not "angry" and gave her a victory celebration and not, as quoted, a "farewell party." We were sorry to hear that her father was seriously ill and we look forward to her return, as she has planned.

ARON RUDE  
BRYNA FRANKLIN  
Tel Aviv.

## POLLARD

(Continued from Page One)

Israeli government, at the highest levels, interceded with the U.S. government on his behalf. Both Pollard and his wife have expressed a strong desire to live in Israel.

But U.S.-Israeli relations right now appear to make any such political settlement of the affair extremely difficult. For one thing, the U.S. prosecutors, in their latest memorandum, have accused Israel of only partial cooperation with the U.S. investigation despite earlier assurances of full cooperation.

The U.S. Justice Department is considering charging four Israelis allegedly involved in the case. Israel television reported last night. Such a move would involve lifting the immunity it had granted three of them. The four are Rafael Eitan, the former head of the Leken scientific intelligence-gathering unit, Yosef Yagur, the former science attaché at the Israeli consulate in New York, Yrit Erb, his secretary and Aluf Mishne Aviem Sella, a graduate student at New York University on leave from the Air Force.

The first three had received immunity for testifying in the case, but the Justice Department now claims they lied. Israel Radio reported last night.

After Pollard's arrest outside the Israeli Embassy in Washington on November 21, 1985, Israel said that the espionage operation had been a violation of Israeli policy and "unauthorized." The intelligence unit involved was disbanded. Then-prime minister Shimon Peres publicly apologized and promised Israel's full cooperation in the investigation.

A team of senior U.S. Justice Department, State Department and FBI officials came to Israel in December 1985 to question the Israeli officials implicated in the affair, including Eitan and Yagur.

But the Israeli officials, according to the latest U.S. court documents, failed to inform the U.S. delegation of the key role played in the operation by Sella, who was described as

Pollard's first "handler" in the U.S.

The U.S. government has been trying for months to question Sella, but Israel has steadfastly refused to make him available. This has emerged as a major point of friction between Washington and Jerusalem.

The U.S. government has now also accused Israel of returning only 63 of the more than 1,000 classified U.S. military documents obtained by Pollard. Because of this "selective cooperation" by Israel and the prevailing sense among U.S. Justice Department investigators that Israeli officials lied about the extent of the espionage operation, there is some possibility that the U.S. will lift the immunity from prosecution earlier granted to Eitan, Yagur and other Israeli officials who testified about their roles.

Henderson-Pollard yesterday insisted that the Israeli agents had pressed Pollard to undertake what the U.S. government has described as his "leaky" trips to Europe and Israel in order to meet with Eitan outside the U.S. The Israeli agents, she said, had come up with a cover story for Pollard's trips, namely that he had a rich uncle in Paris who was paying all the expenses.

During the year-and-a-half that Pollard was providing Israel with secret documents, he received some \$45,000, most of which went to pay for his overseas trips and other expenses involved in the operation. "We were not consumed by money," Henderson-Pollard said yesterday. "They have tried to make him look like a mercenary. That's a lie."

Pollard had told The Post that the money was Israel's idea, and that he came to accept it only very reluctantly.

Israel Radio reported last night that the Justice Department was also demanding a "substantial" prison sentence for Henderson-Pollard because she was allegedly aware of her husband's spying and had helped the Israeli officials in the operation.

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